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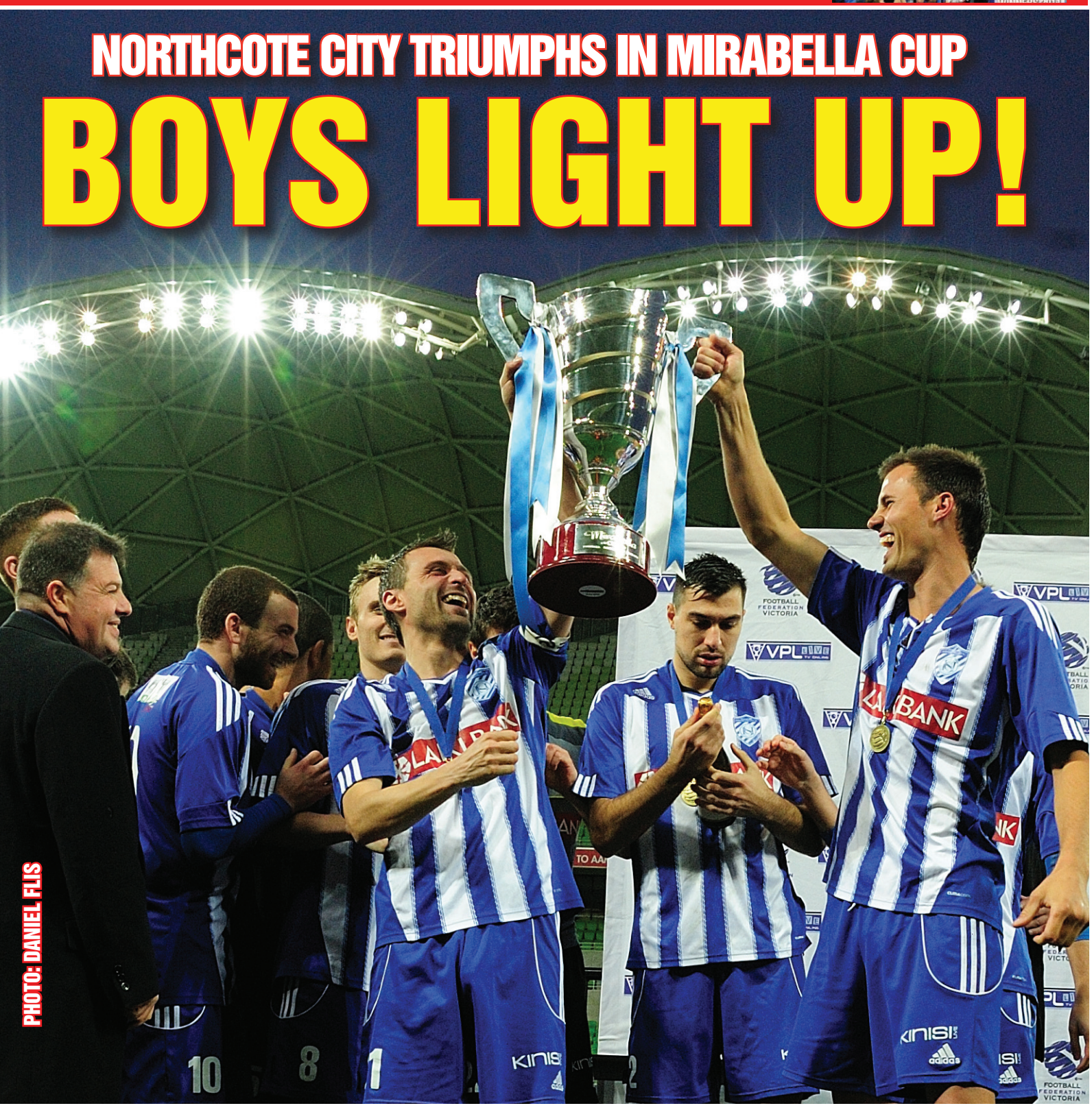

PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS

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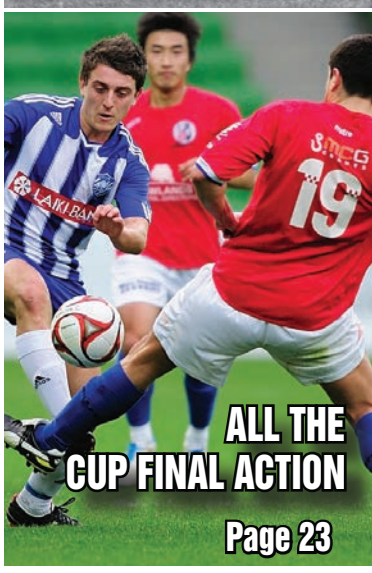

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Golden Balls here in December

Melbourne Victory-LA Galaxy blockbuster adds another jewel to Victorian sporting events calendar

LA Galaxy and Melbourne Victory will play in a blockbuster Australian match featuring soccer superstars Harry Kewell, David Beckham and Landon Donovan on 6 December this year at Etihad Stadium, Premier Ted Baillieu announced on Sunday.

Mr Baillieu said the decision to bring the LA Galaxy game to Melbourne once again demonstrated Melbourne's standing as Australia's sporting capital and one of the great sporting cities of the world.

"Melbourne is recognised globally as a hub for its world-leading major events and Victorians love to celebrate, participate in and attend major sport events," Mr Baillieu said.

"The Victorian Coalition Government is proud to support this match – another jewel in Victoria's outstanding major events calendar – between Melbourne Victory including Harry Kewell and the LA Galaxy featuring Landon Donovan and David Beckham."

Between now and the end of the year, Victoria will play host to an unprecedented number of Australia's biggest sporting events including:

• the AFL Finals festival, culminating in the Grand Final on Saturday 1 October;
• the Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix (MotoGP) at Phillip Island from 14 to 16 October;
• Australia's most successful horseracing carnival, the Spring Racing Carnival, including the internationally-celebrated running of the Melbourne Cup on Tuesday 1 November;
• the first game of the International Rules series featuring Australia vs Ireland on Friday 28 October;
• ISAF's Sailing World Cup from November 6 to 12;
• the staging of the Presidents Cup Golf Tournament from 14-20 November at Royal Melbourne Golf Course featuring 24 of the greatest players in the world; and
• the JBWere Masters at Victoria Golf Club, featuring world number 1 Luke Donald, from December 15 to 18.

LA Galaxy President Tom Payne said the team was looking forward to coming to Melbourne.

"We are very excited to be coming to Melbourne – the sports capital of Australia – and are looking forward to playing against the Melbourne Victory in the Jeep Melbourne Challenge at the sensational Etihad Stadium," Mr Payne said.

"We would like to thank Premier Baillieu and the State of Victoria for the kind invitation and Lou Sticca and Tribal Sports Management for arranging the Galaxy's visit to Melbourne."

Mr Lou Sticca of Tribal Sports Management said he was genuinely excited that Melbourne will get to experience a high-quality international match between our own Melbourne Victory and the world-famous LA Galaxy.

"Our city will come out in force to see some of the greatest names in football including Archie Thompson, Carlos Hernandez and now Harry Kewell as well as David Beckham, Robbie Keane and Landon Donovan," Mr Stica said.

"Playing at Etihad Stadium in the lead-up to Christmas will guarantee a genuinely festive and fun atmosphere."

Etihad Stadium CEO Mr Ian Collins said hosting the famous LA Galaxy team made for another extremely exciting event for Etihad Stadium.

"David Beckham, of course, is one of the most instantly-recognisable faces in world sport and we're thrilled that the promoters have determined that we are the appropriate venue for this occasion," he said.

"It should be a fantastic match."

Tickets to the match will go on sale this Thursday 15 September through Ticketmaster via telephone on 13 61 00 or through the website at ticketmaster.com.au.

Kewell to arrive in Melbourne today

A goal in each half gave Melbourne Victory a 2-0 win over A-League champions Brisbane Roar before a crowd of 6,307 at Launceston's Aurora Stadium on Sunday afternoon.

Victory took the lead in the 37th minute through a penalty converted by Carlos Hernandez after Matt Smith had fouled Danny Allsopp.

Allsopp made it 2-0 in the 59th minute after he had bamboozled Smith with some close control before firing low past Michael Theoklitos from the left of the box.

Victory's win should have been more comprehensive. They had a goal disallowed for off-side, another cancelled out because of a foul, and a Hernandez free-kick struck the woodwork and the ball clearly crossed the line but was cleared with the assistant referee and referee unsighted.

Victory also prepares for the arrival of Harry Kewell who touches down in Melbourne today (Monday) on an Emirates flight at 6am. A press conference will take place just after midday.

Slick Simon strike downs Dandaloo

Central Coast Mariners remain unbeaten in their 2011/12 Hyundai A-League pre-season campaign following a 1-nil victory over Illawarra Premier League Champions Dandaloo FC this evening.

In the second game of phase three of their preparations for the season proper, the Yellow and Navy put together a solid display on a bumpy surface in Cringila, near Wollongong.

The triumph extends the Mariners' winning run to seven friendly matches, including an historic victory over Scottish giants Glasgow Celtic in the clubs' first ever international friendly in early July.

The Mariners would get the reward for their dominance when Michael Baird fired an accurate pass from the left side, Matt Simon controlled the ball before sending a powerful right footed shot past keeper Blowes.

The Mariners' next hit-out is on Wednesday evening against Northern NSW State League side Lake Macquarie Roosters at Macquarie Field, Speers Point.

The Yellow and Navy will then take on Perth Glory at Knox Grammar School, Sydney, on Sunday 18 September in their first pre-season clash against Hyundai A-League opposition.

Miller Magic Sparks Big Win

Former Republic of Ireland international midfielder Liam Miller has starred in Perth Glory's 6-1 win against All Flags Premier League premiers Balcatta.

In a practice game played in beautiful spring weather, Miller showed all his class and why he could be one of the best additions to the Hyundai A-League.

Starting at right midfield, Tommy Amphlett opened the scoring on 13 minutes when he slotted home a brilliant pass from Miller.

Amphlett was again in the action 7 minutes later when his excellent cross-field pass caught the Balcatta defence, allowing Mile Sterjovski to score from 10 meters.

Two-nil was quickly three when Billy Mehmet got his first goal in Perth Glory colours tapping in Amphlett's goal-bound lob.

Balcatta pulled a goal back through an unfortunate own-goal from teenage trialist Ryan Lowry but it was only a minor setback for Perth Glory who added a fourth on 37 minutes.

Adam Hughes got his third goal of the pre-season finishing a neat one-two with Mehmet.

Mehmet got his second two minutes in the second half and Adam Taggart completed the scoring in the 85th minute but it could have been more had it not been for a phenomenal spell of goal keeping by Bobson Kamara.

Introduced on 66 minutes, Balcatta's reserve keeper made 6 stunning saves and four in the space of two minutes.

With the Hyundai A-League season only 4 weeks away, Perth Glory's next practice game will be on Tuesday against the United Arab Emirates Olympic U-23 team.

Kick off at 882 6PR Stadium in Inglewood is 5pm.

Shane Stefanutto (left) of brisbane Roar gets the ball away ahead of Victory's Carlos Hernandezcampaign off to a winning start. Photo: WALTER PLESS

SHORT PASSES

FOUR CORNERS

Last year Australian soccer lost out on and off the field, now football fans are asking questions about how the game is run and the two men who lead the code in this country. The ABC's 'Four Corners' program takes a look at the Beautiful Game and investigates if all is as well as it seems. It broadcasts tonight on ABC1 at 8.30pm.

LIGHTS SHINE ON WOLVES

Moreland Wolves S.C. is going places. With the support of the Local and State Governments the club has been able to upgrade its home ground (Reddish Reserve) facilities. An injection of $200,000 have seen things like a new car park, new sprinkler system, extension of the junior pitch and more importantly new flood lights installed which are FFV approved to host night matches.

It is expected that it will help broaden the club's junior base and introduce a women's team to the Wolves mix. If it helps promote sport and wellbeing in the local community and keeps kids off the street . President George Sfilrlas extends special thanks to everyone at Moreland Wolves including the committee, Mayor Oscar Yildiz JP, Christine Campbell MP (Member for Pascoe Vale), James Merlino MP. Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs.

And the icing on the cake, the win over Essendon Royals (of 2-nil) now puts the club in with a realistic chance for a second promotion in 2 years.

Let there be light! The new lights were officially unveiled on Saturday night.

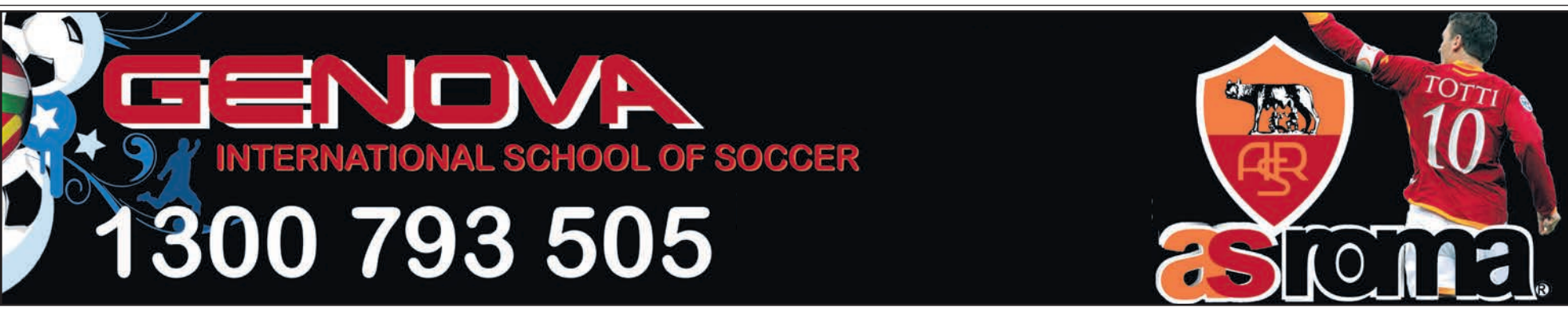
HAYNES VOTED GULLY BEST

VPL champions Green Gully hosted its presentation night on Saturday and Jason Haynes won the club's Best and Fairest award for season 2011. Graham Hockless took out the Player's Player Award.

Next week's GW will the final edition for the winter season.

Keep up to date through our website, facebook and twitter accounts.

goal! Weekly



Euro Scoreboard

ENGLAND EPL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Manchester United	4	4	0	0	18	3	+15	12	W W W W
2 Manchester City	4	4	0	0	15	3	+12	12	W W W W
3 Chelsea	4	3	1	0	7	3	+4	10	W W W D
4 Stoke City	4	2	2	0	3	1	+2	8	W W D D
5 Liverpool	4	2	1	1	6	3	+3	7	L W W D
6 Newcastle United	3	2	1	0	3	1	+2	7	W W D
7 Wolverhampton	4	2	1	1	4	3	+1	7	L D W W
8 Aston Villa	4	1	3	0	5	3	+2	6	D D W D
9 Wigan Athletic	4	1	2	1	3	4	-1	5	L W D D
10 Everton	3	1	1	1	3	3	+0	4	D W L
11 Arsenal	4	1	1	2	3	10	-7	4	W L L D
12 Bolton Wanderers	4	1	0	3	7	11	-4	3	L L L W
13 Tottenham Hotspur	3	1	0	2	3	8	-5	3	W L L
14 Queens Park Ra…	3	1	0	2	1	6	-5	3	L W L
15 Norwich City	3	0	2	1	3	5	-2	2	L D D
16 Sunderland	4	0	2	2	2	4	-2	2	L D L D
17 Swansea City	4	0	2	2	0	5	-5	2	L D D L
18 Fulham	3	0	1	2	1	4	-3	1	L L D
19 West Bromwich	3	0	0	3	2	5	-3	0	L L L
20 Blackburn Rovers	3	0	0	3	2	6	-4	0	L L L

SPAIN La Liga

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Real Madrid	2	2	0	0	10	2	+8	6	W W
2 Valencia	2	2	0	0	5	3	+2	6	W W
3 Barcelona	2	1	1	0	7	2	+5	4	D W
4 Real Sociedad	2	1	1	0	4	3	+1	4	D W
5 Sevilla	2	1	1	0	4	3	+1	4	D W
6 Mallorca	1	1	0	0	1	0	+1	3	W
7 Real Betis	1	1	0	0	1	0	+1	3	W
8 Athletic Club	1	0	1	0	1	1	+0	1	D
9 Getafe	2	0	1	1	3	5	-2	1	L D
10 Levante	1	0	1	0	1	1	+0	1	D
11 Rayo Vallecano	1	0	1	0	1	1	+0	1	D
12 Atlético Madrid	2	0	1	1	0	1	-1	1	L D
13 Osasuna	1	0	1	0	0	0	+0	1	D
14 Villarreal	2	0	1	1	2	7	-5	1	D L
15 Racing Santander	1	0	0	1	3	4	-1	0	L
16 Málaga	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0	L
17 Sporting Gijón	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0	L
18 Espanyol	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0	L
19 Granada	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0	L
20 Real Zaragoza	1	0	0	1	0	6	-6	0	L

FRANCE Ligue 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Olympique Lyon	5	3	2	0	9	5	+4	11	W W D D W
2 Lille	5	3	1	1	9	6	+3	10	W W W L D
3 Toulouse	5	3	1	1	7	4	+3	10	W L D W W
4 Stade Rennes	5	3	1	1	10	8	+2	10	W W L D W
5 Montpellier	4	3	0	1	9	3	+6	9	L W W W
6 Sochaux	5	2	2	1	8	7	+1	8	D W W L D
7 Lorient	5	2	2	1	5	5	+0	8	D W L D W
8 PSG	4	2	1	1	6	4	+2	7	W W D L
9 Saint-Étienne	5	2	1	2	5	6	-1	7	L L D W W
10 Bordeaux	5	1	3	1	5	5	+0	6	D W D D L
11 Evian TG	5	1	3	1	4	4	+0	6	D L D W D
12 Caen	5	2	0	3	6	7	-1	6	L L L W W
13 Dijon	5	2	0	3	5	9	-4	6	L W W L L
14 Auxerre	4	1	2	1	8	7	+1	5	W D D L
15 Ajaccio	5	1	2	2	6	9	-3	5	W L D D L
16 Brest	4	0	4	0	3	3	+0	4	D D D D
17 Olympique Mars	5	0	3	2	6	8	-2	3	L L D D D
18 Nice	4	0	2	2	2	5	-3	2	D D L L
19 Nancy	4	0	1	3	3	6	-3	1	L L L D
20 Valenciennes	5	0	1	4	3	8	-5	1	L L L D L

GERMANY Bundesliga

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Bayern München	5	4	0	1	16	1	+15	12	W W W W L
2 Werder Bremen	5	4	0	1	11	5	+6	12	W W W L W
3 Borussia M'gla…	5	3	1	1	7	3	+4	10	W L W D W
4 Bayer Leverkusen	5	3	1	1	6	3	+3	10	W D W W L
5 Hoffenheim	5	3	0	2	9	4	+5	9	W L W W L
6 Schalke 04	4	3	0	1	10	6	+4	9	W W W L
7 Hertha BSC	5	2	2	1	6	5	+1	8	W W D D L
8 Hannover 96	5	2	2	1	6	7	-1	8	L D D W W
9 Stuttgart	5	2	1	2	7	3	+4	7	W L L D W
10 Borus Dortmund	5	2	1	2	6	4	+2	7	L D W L W
11 Mainz 05	5	2	1	2	7	10	-3	7	L D L W W
12 Nürnberg	4	2	0	2	3	4	-1	6	W L L W
13 Köln	4	1	1	2	6	12	-6	4	W D L L
14 Freiburg	5	1	1	3	9	16	-7	4	L W L L D
15 Wolfsburg	4	1	0	3	4	8	-4	3	L L L W
16 Augsburg	5	0	2	3	4	10	-6	2	L L L D D
17 Kaiserslautern	5	0	2	3	2	8	-6	2	L L D D L
18 Hamburger SV	5	0	1	4	6	16	-10	1	L L L D L

HOLLAND Eredivisie

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Ajax	5	4	1	0	18	7	+11	13	W W D W W
2 Twente	5	4	0	1	13	4	+9	12	L W W W W
3 AZ	5	4	0	1	14	3	+11	12	W W W L W
4 RKC Waalwijk	5	3	1	1	7	4	+3	10	W W W L D
5 PSV	4	3	0	1	11	4	+7	9	W W W L
6 Feyenoord	4	2	2	0	8	3	+5	8	D D W W
7 Vitesse	5	2	1	2	7	9	-2	7	L L W W D
8 NEC	5	2	1	2	6	8	-2	7	L W L W D
9 Roda JC	5	2	0	3	5	10	-5	6	W L L L W
10 De Graafschap	5	1	2	2	5	10	-5	5	W L D D L
11 Utrecht	4	1	2	1	6	5	+1	5	W L D D
12 Heracles	5	1	2	2	8	9	-1	5	L L D W D
13 Groningen	4	1	1	2	7	9	-2	4	L D W L
14 ADO Den Haag	5	1	1	3	5	8	-3	4	L W L L D
15 VVV	4	0	2	2	3	10	-7	2	L D L D
16 Heerenveen	4	0	2	2	6	14	-8	2	D L L D
17 NAC Breda	4	0	1	3	4	7	-3	1	L D L L
18 Excelsior	4	0	1	3	2	11	-9	1	L D L L

SCOTLAND SPL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Rangers	6	5	1	0	11	1	+10	16	W W W W W
2 Celtic	6	5	0	1	14	2	+12	15	W W L W W
3 Motherwell	7	4	1	2	9	9	+0	13	L W L W W
4 Kilmarnock	6	2	3	1	9	6	+3	9	W L D W D
5 Heart of Midlo…	7	2	3	2	7	4	+3	9	D W D W L
6 St. Mirren	7	2	3	2	4	5	-1	9	D L W L D
7 Dunfermline At…	6	2	2	2	9	10	-1	8	L L W W D
8 St. Johnstone	6	1	3	2	4	6	-2	6	D D W L L
9 Dundee United	7	1	3	3	7	12	-5	6	L D L L D
10 Inverness CT	7	1	2	4	7	13	-6	5	D W L L D
11 Aberdeen	6	1	1	4	2	8	-6	4	L W L L L
12 Hibernian	5	1	0	4	3	10	-7	3	L L L W L

THE CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Brighton & Hov…	6	5	1	0	11	4	+7	16	W W D W W
2 Southampton	6	5	0	1	15	8	+7	15	W L W W W
3 Middlesbrough	6	4	2	0	12	5	+7	14	W D W W W
4 West Ham United	6	4	1	1	15	7	+8	13	W W D W W
5 Derby County	6	4	0	2	8	5	+3	12	L L W W W
6 Cardiff City	6	3	2	1	9	6	+3	11	W D D L W
7 Blackpool	6	3	2	1	8	5	+3	11	W D D L W
8 Crystal Palace	6	3	1	2	9	7	+2	10	L D W W W
9 Hull City	6	3	0	3	4	6	-2	9	W W L L W
10 Leicester City	6	2	2	2	8	9	-1	8	D W D L L
11 Peterborough U…	6	2	1	3	12	9	+3	7	L L W D L
12 Leeds United	6	2	1	3	11	11	+0	7	W L D W L
13 Millwall	5	1	3	1	6	5	+1	6	D L D W D
14 Portsmouth	6	1	3	2	7	8	-1	6	L D D W L
15 Barnsley	6	1	3	2	4	6	-2	6	D D W L L
16 Watford	6	1	3	2	6	9	-3	6	W D D L L
17 Ipswich Town	6	2	0	4	8	16	-8	6	L W L L L
18 Coventry City	6	1	2	3	4	5	-1	5	W D D L L
19 Burnley	5	1	2	2	5	8	-3	5	L W D L D
20 Nottingham Forest	6	1	2	3	6	11	-5	5	L L D W L
21 Bristol City	6	1	2	3	4	9	-5	5	L D D W L
22 Birmingham City	4	1	1	2	5	7	-2	4	D L W L
23 Reading	6	1	1	4	5	8	-3	4	L L L L W
24 Doncaster Rovers	6	0	1	5	2	10	-8	1	L D L L L

LEAGUE ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Sheffield United	7	5	2	0	14	4	+10	17	D W W D W
2 Charlton Athletic	7	5	2	0	14	5	+9	17	W D W D W
3 Milton Keynes Dons	7	5	1	1	16	8	+8	16	L W W W W
4 Brentford	7	5	0	2	11	5	+6	15	W W L W W
5 Huddersfield Town	7	3	4	0	12	6	+6	13	W D W W D
6 Hartlepool United	7	3	4	0	12	7	+5	13	W W W D D
7 Preston North End	6	4	1	1	12	8	+4	13	W W W W D
8 Sheffield Wedn…	7	4	1	2	12	9	+3	13	W D W W L
9 Notts County	7	4	0	3	13	10	+3	12	W W L L W
10 Tranmere Rovers	7	3	2	2	7	6	+1	11	L D W D L
11 Stevenage	7	2	4	1	11	8	+3	10	D W L D W
12 Carlisle United	7	3	1	3	8	10	-2	10	L L W W D
13 Colchester United	7	2	3	2	13	11	+2	9	D D W L L
14 Walsall	7	2	2	3	8	8	+0	8	L L W D L
15 Oldham Athletic	7	2	2	3	8	12	-4	8	D D L W W
16 Bury	7	2	1	4	8	14	-6	7	L L L W W
17 Scunthorpe United	7	0	5	2	9	11	-2	5	D D L D L
18 Yeovil Town	7	1	2	4	7	10	-3	5	L D L D L
19 Wycombe Wanderers	6	1	2	3	5	9	-4	5	L L L W D
20 Chesterfield	7	1	2	4	7	12	-5	5	W D L L L
21 Rochdale	7	1	2	4	9	15	-6	5	W L L L D
22 Exeter City	7	1	1	5	3	10	-7	4	L L W L L
23 AFC Bournemouth	7	1	0	6	5	16	-11	3	L L L L L
24 Leyton Orient	7	0	2	5	3	13	-10	2	D D L L L

LEAGUE TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Morecambe	7	5	1	1	16	3	+13	16	W D W W W
2 Rotherham United	7	5	1	1	17	8	+9	16	W L W D W
3 Shrewsbury Town	7	4	2	1	10	6	+4	14	W W W W L
4 Crawley Town	7	4	1	2	15	13	+2	13	L W L W W
5 Cheltenham Town	7	4	0	3	10	7	+3	12	W L W W L
6 Torquay United	7	3	3	1	10	7	+3	12	D W D L W
7 Port Vale	7	3	2	2	16	11	+5	11	W L L W D
8 Gillingham	7	3	2	2	9	8	+1	11	D L L W D
9 AFC Wimbledon	7	3	2	2	11	11	+0	11	D W L D W
10 Burton Albion	7	2	4	1	10	9	+1	10	D W L W D
11 Dagenham & Red…	7	3	1	3	5	7	-2	10	L L D W W
12 Southend United	7	3	1	3	8	11	-3	10	L D W L L
13 Swindon Town	7	3	0	4	10	8	+2	9	W W L L L
14 Oxford United	7	2	3	2	9	9	+0	9	D L D W W
15 Bristol Rovers	7	2	3	2	9	11	-2	9	D L D D W
16 Crewe Alexandra	7	3	0	4	9	11	-2	9	W W W L L
17 Accrington Stanley	7	2	3	2	6	8	-2	9	D D W L W
18 Aldershot Town	7	2	2	3	5	7	-2	8	D W D L L
19 Macclesfield Town	7	2	1	4	8	8	+0	7	L L W D W
20 Bradford City	7	1	3	3	9	10	-1	6	D D W L L
21 Northampton Town	7	1	3	3	6	9	-3	6	D D L L L
22 Barnet	7	1	3	3	9	14	-5	6	L D L D D
23 Hereford United	7	1	2	4	3	12	-9	5	L W D D L
24 Plymouth Argyle	7	0	1	6	3	15	-12	1	L L L L L

…Results…Results….Results…..Results….Results….Results…Results…Results…Results…Results…Results…

Saturday, 10 September 2011
Barclays Premier League
Arsenal 1-0 Swansea
Bolton 0-5 Man Utd
Everton 2-2 Aston Villa
Man City 3-0 Wigan
Stoke 1-0 Liverpool
Sunderland 1-2 Chelsea
Wolverhampton 0-2 Tottenham

Npower Championship
Barnsley 1-1 Leicester
Blackpool 2-0 Ipswich
Bristol City 0-1 Brighton
Burnley 0-2 Middlesbrough
Cardiff 2-0 Doncaster
Coventry 2-0 Derby
Leeds 3-2 Crystal Palace
Peterborough 0-1 Hull
Reading 0-2 Watford
Southampton 3-2 Nott'm Forest
West Ham 4-3 Portsmouth

Npower League One
Bournemouth 0-3 Chesterfield
Bury 2-4 Rochdale
Carlisle 1-2 Hartlepool
Charlton 2-0 Exeter
Colchester 1-1 Leyton Orient
Huddersfield 2-0 Tranmere
Notts County 2-1 Walsall
Oldham 1-1 Stevenage
Scunthorpe 1-1 Sheffield Utd
Sheffield Wed 3-1 MK Dons
Wycombe 0-1 Brentford

Npower League Two
Aldershot 1-1 AFC Wimbledon
Bradford 2-2 Bristol Rovers
Cheltenham 2-0 Macclesfield
Crewe 3-1 Barnet
Gillingham 1-1 Accrington Stanley
Morecambe 6-0 Crawley Town
Northampton 0-0 Torquay
Oxford Utd 2-2 Burton Albion
Plymouth 0-2 Port Vale
Rotherham 3-1 Dag & Red
Shrewsbury 3-1 Hereford
Swindon 2-0 Southend

Clydesdale Bank Premier League
Celtic 4-0 Motherwell
Dundee Utd 0-1 Rangers
Inverness CT 1-1 Hearts
Kilmarnock 3-2 Dunfermline
St Mirren 0-0 St Johnstone

Blue Square Bet Premier
AFC Telford 1-1 Stockport
Alfreton Town 0-1 Braintree Town
Barrow 3-1 Wrexham
Bath City 1-2 Southport
Cambridge Utd 1-1 Forest Green
Fleetwood Town 3-1 Gateshead
Grimsby 3-0 Hayes & Yeading
Kidderminster 2-2 Ebbsfleet United
Lincoln City 0-2 Kettering
Luton 2-0 Darlington
Mansfield 5-0 Newport County
Tamworth 2-1 York

Scottish First Division
Livingston 1-1 Falkirk
Morton 4-1 Ayr
Queen of South 1-0 Hamilton
Raith Rovers 0-1 Dundee
Ross County 2-2 Partick Thistle

Scottish Second Division
Airdrie Utd 4-0 Albion
Brechin 0-1 Forfar
Cowdenbeath 3-2 East Fife
Dumbarton 3-4 Arbroath
Stirling 2-2 Stenhousemuir

Scottish Third Division
Berwick 1-2 Montrose
Clyde 0-2 Queen's Park
East Stirling 0-1 Alloa
Peterhead 1-3 Elgin
Stranraer 4-2 Annan Athletic

Friday, 9 September 2011
Npower League One
Preston 4-3 Yeovil

League of Ireland Premier Division
Bray 0-3 St Patricks
Derry City 2-1 UCD
Drogheda Utd 0-2 Bohemians
Galway Utd 2-2 Dundalk
Shamrock Rovers 1-2 Sligo

Thursday, 8 September 2011
Friendly Match
Juventus 1-1 Notts County

Wednesday, 7 September 2011
Johnstone's Paint Trophy
Leyton Orient 1-1 Dag & Red
(Dag & Red win 14-13 on penalties)

International Match
Honduras 0-3 Paraguay
Venezuela 2-1 Guinea

Tuesday, 6 September 2011
European Championship Qualifying
Austria 0-0 Turkey
Azerbaijan 3-2 Kazakhstan
Bosnia-Hercegovina 1-0 Belarus
Croatia 3-1 Israel
Denmark 2-0 Norway
England 1-0 Wales
Estonia 4-1 Northern Ireland
Finland 0-2 Netherlands
Iceland 1-0 Cyprus
Italy 1-0 Slovenia
Latvia 1-1 Greece
Luxembourg 2-1 Albania
Macedonia 1-0 Andorra
Malta 1-1 Georgia
Moldova 0-2 Hungary
Romania 0-0 France
Russia 0-0 Rep of Ireland
San Marino 0-5 Sweden
Scotland 1-0 Lithuania
Serbia 3-1 Faroe Islands
Slovakia 0-4 Armenia
Spain 6-0 Liechtenstein
Switzerland 3-1 Bulgaria

UEFA Under-21 Championship Qualifying
Montenegro U21 3-1 Wales U21
N Ireland U21 0-3 Denmark U21
Turkey U21 1-0 Rep of Ireland U21

Johnstone's Paint Trophy
Accrington Stanley 3-2 Carlisle
Wycombe 3-1 Bristol Rovers

International Match
Argentina 3-1 Nigeria
Belgium 1-0 USA
Bolivia 0-0 Peru
Czech Republic 4-0 Ukraine
Ecuador 4-0 Costa Rica
Poland 2-2 Germany

Monday, 5 September 2011
UEFA Under-21 Championship Qualifying
Scotland U21 0-0 Bulgaria U21

Npower League One
Charlton 1-1 Sheffield Wed

Under-21 Friendly Match
England U21 4-1 Israel U21

International Match
Brazil 1-0 Ghana

European Results

SPAIN
Real Sociedad 2 - 2 Barcelona
Villarreal 2 - 2 Sevilla
Real Madrid 4 - 2 Getafe
Valencia 1 - 0 Atlético Madrid
Real Betis v Mallorca
Racing Santander v Levante
Osasuna v Sporting Gijón
Rayo Vallecano v Real Zaragoza
Espanyol v Athletic Club

GERMANY
Schalke 04 1 - 0 Borussia M'gla…
SAugsburg 1 - 4 Bayer Leverkusen
Borussia Dortmund 1 - 2 Hertha BSC
Bayern München 7 - 0 Freiburg
Mainz 05 0 - 4 Hoffenheim
Stuttgart 3 - 0 Hannover 96
Borussia M'gla… 1 - 0 Kaiserslautern
Werder Bremen 2 - 0 Hamburger SV
Köln v Nürnberg
Wolfsburg v Schalke 04

FRANCE
Ajaccio 3 - 1 Valenciennes
Bordeaux 0 - 0 Evian TG
Caen 0 - 1 Toulouse
Dijon 1 - 2 Olympique Lyon
Saint-Étienne 1 - 3 Lille
Sochaux 1 - 1 Lorient
Olympique Mars… 0 - 1 Stade Rennes
Montpellier V Nice
Nancy V Auxerre
PSG V Brest

HOLLAND
PSV 6 - 1 Excelsior
Roda JC 2 - 1 Twente
De Graafschap 1 - 0 NEC
ADO Den Haag 0 - 1 RKC Waalwijk
AZ 4 - 0 Vitesse
Heracles 2 - 3 Ajax
Heerenveen V Groningen
NAC Breda V Feyenoord
VVV V PSV
Excelsior V Utrecht

ITALY
Milan 2 - 2 Lazio
Cesena 1 - 3 Napoli
Juventus V Parma
Catania V Siena
Chievo V Novara
Fiorentina VBologna
Genoa V Atalanta
Lecce V Udinese
Roma V Cagliari
Palermo V Internazionale

GREECE
Panionios 2 - 2 Ergotelis
AEK Athens PSTP TBD
PAOK 1 - 0 Xanthi
Xanthi PSTP AEK Athens
Panaitolikos 0 - 1 Panionios
Ergotelis 2 - 1 PAOK
Asteras Tripolis V Kerkyra
Aris V Atromitos
Panathinaikos V PAS Giannina
Panaitolikos V Asteras Tripolis

One Game At A Time

UEFA Champions League

Tuesday, 13 September 2011
Apoel Nicosia v Zenit St Petersburg
Barcelona v AC Milan
Borussia Dortmund v Arsenal
Chelsea v Bayer Leverkusen
FC Porto v Shakhtar Donetsk
Genk v Valencia
Olympiakos v Marseille
Plzen v BATE Borisov

Wednesday, 14 September 2011
Ajax v Lyon,
Basle v SC Otelul Galati
Benfica v Man Utd
Dinamo Zagreb v Real Madrid
Inter Milan v Trabzonspor
Lille v CSKA Moscow
Man City v Napoli
Villarreal v Bayern Munich

UEFA Europa League

Thursday, 15 Sept
Athletic Bilbao OFF
Paris SG
Besiktas v Macc Tel-Aviv
Dynamo Kiev v Stoke
FC Copenhagen v
Vorskla Poltava
FC Zurich v Sporting
Hannover 96 v Standard
Liege
Hapoel Tel-Aviv v Rapid
Bucharest
Lazio v FC Vaslui
PAOK Salonika v
Tottenham
Paris SG v Red Bull
Salzburg
PSV Eindhoven v Legia
Warsaw
Red Bull Salzburg OFF
Slovan Bratislava
Shamrock Rovers v
Rubin Kazan
Slovan Bratislava v
Athletic Bilbao
Anderlecht v AEK Athens
Atletico Madrid v
Celtic, Gpl
Austria Vienna v FC
Metalist Kharkiv
AZ Alkmaar v Malmo
Birmingham v Braga
Club Bruges v NK
Maribor
Fulham v FC Twente
Maccabi Haifa v AEK
Larnaca
SK Sturm Graz v
Lokomotiv Moscow
Steaua Bucharest v
Schalke 04
Udinese v Rennes
Wisla Krakow v Odense

Germany

Friday, 16 September 2011
SC Freiburg v VfB Stuttgart
Saturday, 17 September 2011
Bayer Leverkusen v Cologne
Hamburg v Borussia M'gladbach
Hertha Berlin v Augsburg
Nuremberg v Werder Bremen
TSG Hoffenheim v Wolfsburg
FC Kaiserslautern v Mainz
Sunday, 18 September 2011
Hannover 96 v Borussia Dortmund
Schalke 04 v Bayern Munich

Italy

Saturday, 17 September 2011
Cagliari v Novara
Inter Milan v Roma
Sunday, 18 September 2011
Atalanta v Palermo
Bologna v Lecce
Catania v Cesena
Lazio v Genoa
Parma v Chievo
Siena v Juventus
Udinese v Fiorentina
Napoli v AC Milan

England EPL

Saturday, 17 September 2011
Blackburn v Arsenal
Aston Villa v Newcastle
Bolton v Norwich
Everton v Wigan
Swansea v West Brom
Wolverhampton v QPR
Sunday, 18 September 2011
Sunderland v Stoke
Tottenham v Liverpool
Fulham v Man City
Man Utd v Chelsea

The Championship

Saturday, 17 September 2011
Millwall v West Ham
Nott'm Forest v Derby
Barnsley v Watford
Blackpool v Cardiff
Crystal Palace v Middlesbrough
Hull v Portsmouth
Leeds v Bristol City
Leicester v Brighton
Peterborough v Burnley
Reading v Doncaster
Sunday, 18 September 2011
Southampton v Birmingham
Monday, 19 September 2011
Ipswich v Coventry

Scotland

Saturday, 17 September 2011
Dunfermline v Hibernian
Aberdeen v Kilmarnock
Dundee Utd v Inverness CT
Hearts v St Mirren
Motherwell v St Johnstone
Sunday, 18 September 2011
Rangers v Celtic

Greece

Saturday, 17 September 2011
Asteras Tripoli v Atromitos
Ergotelis v Olympiakos
FC Xanthi v OFI Crete
Kerkyra v Panionios
PAOK Salonika v AEK Athens
Panetolikos v Giannina

Spain

Saturday, 17 September 2011
Granada v Villarreal
Mallorca v Malaga
Sporting Gijon v Valencia
Barcelona v Osasuna
Sevilla v Real Sociedad
Sunday, 18 September 2011
Getafe v Rayo Vallecano
Real Zaragoza v Espanyol
Atletico Madrid v Racing Santander
Levante v Real Madrid
Athletic Bilbao v Real Betis

Man Utd hammer five past Bolton

EPL

Manchester United eased to a 5-0 win at Bolton on Saturday with Wayne Rooney bagging his second hat-trick in as many games.

United romped to a 3-0 lead inside 25 minutes with a goal from Javier Hernandez and a brace from Rooney, while Bolton struggled to cope with their visitors' attacking ability.

In the second period, both strikers grabbed another goal each, but could have added several more as the match neared the heights of United's last league match - an 8-2 victory against Arsenal.

Hernandez scored his second goal after a deflection and then, with 23 minutes remaining, Rooney claimed his hat-trick, smashing a Nani pass into the bottom left corner after the Portuguese winger received a brilliant pass from Ryan Giggs.

That goal consolidated a remarkable feat with Rooney becoming the first player in Premier League history to score eight goals in four matches.

United came close to adding a sixth five minutes from time as Nani found Hernandez in the box with a clever pass, but the Mexican tried to square the ball to Anderson and the pass went wide.

MAN CITY V WIGAN

Rivals Manchester City also maintained their perfect start to the season with an impressive 3-0 victory over Wigan Athletic at the Etihad Stadium.

A Sergio Aguero hat-trick wrapped up the three points to leave Roberto Mancini's men at the top of the Premier League table with 15 goals in their opening four games.

Mancini gave Carlos Tevez a starting berth in place of the Premier League's leading scorer Edin Dzeko with the Argentine looking to re-establish his reputation with the Eastlands faithful following a summer of transfer speculation that only served to damage his reputation.

The home side started with the greater endeavour and should have taken the lead within the opening five minutes, with Adam Johnson blazing over from inside the area after controlling Gael Clichy's deep cross.

The pressure from City was becoming impossible to contain and the Wigan resistance was broken after only 13 minutes when David Silva, in irresistible form, played in Aguero after a fine bit of skill and the former Atletico Madrid man drilled home.

City were unwilling to rest on their laurels and had a marvellous opportunity to double their advantage less than five minutes later when the blistering Silva was brought down by his compatriot Adrian Lopez in the area.

Tevez was given the chance to make it two from the penalty spot but tamely scuffed his effort into the arms of Ali Al-Habsi.

The visitors, to their credit, refused to go into their shell but as each attack mounted from Martinez's men, an ominous counter was invariably forthcoming from their hosts. Chances for Johnson and Aguero were wasted but not quite as embarrassingly as a spurned effort from Micah Richards, who conspired to hit the bar from seven yards out after breaking the offside trap wonderfully.

The visitors came out in the second period with impressive movement going forward. Ben Watson, breaking from midfield, nearly latched onto a Hugo Rodallega through-ball but was beaten to it by Joe Hart.

It was an impressive showing from the visitors but any chance they had of getting back into the game was soon quashed by Aguero, with the Argentine finishing off some sublime build-up play from Kolo Toure, Silva and substitute Samir Nasri with a neat finish past Al-Habsi.

With the ruthlessness of true title contenders, the hosts turned the knife with another shortly after and it was Aguero once again, profiting from a magnificent ball from Silva to all but end the contest.

It was a performance worthy of a hat-trick from the Argentine, who has taken his tally to six goals in four City appearances.

ARSENAL V SWANSEA

Meanwhile, Arsenal's first win of the season may not have been pretty, but manager Arsene Wenger was relieved to seal a 'vital' win.

The Gunners triumphed 1-0 over Swansea at the Emirates Stadium on Saturday, courtesy of a howler from Swansea keeper Michel Vorm, but Wenger was satisfied his side got the points despite a nervy performance.

"It was vital for us to win the game. I think we started quite well and slowly the nerves took over. We played handbrake-ish, restrictive in the second half," he said.

"It's not often that we pass the ball back to the goalkeeper from halfway. We just wanted to get over the line."

"We didn't manage the second goal and any mistake and then you don't win the game - a game that we absolutely had to win."

"Swansea make it difficult for you because they keep the ball well and are quick on the flanks."

The French boss was positive on signings Mikel Arteta and Per Mertesacker, who both debuted for the London outfit in the victory.

"Mertesacker was calm and composed - he leads the line well but needs to adapt to the pace of the game," Wenger said.

STOKE CITY V LIVERPOOL

Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish has taken a swipe at referees claiming his side has been continually 'battered' by contentious decisions.

Following a 1-0 defeat at Stoke, a fuming Dalglish slammed the decision to award Stoke a penalty - which they converted - after Jamie Carragher was adjudged to have brought down John Walters in the box.

The veteran manager repeatedly and pointedly said that he would consult the club's owners about what course of action to take following weeks of what he believed to be controversial circumstances.

"The first four league games have all had a contentious decisions and everyone has gone against us," he said.

"We can only do what we can do ourselves, sometimes things are taken outside your jurisdiction, and if you continue to play like that - with the commitment - we'll be OK this season."

"But if we continually get battered by things that are outside our control then we're not going to have much chance."

Dalglish reiterated the need to seek guidance from the club's owners.

"I'll speak to the owners first, see what they say because the last thing I want to do is for my behaviour to impinge on the club's success in any way, shape or form," he said.

"We would like to be respectful to the referees and I think we have been respectful to the referees, but more important than being respectful to referees and their campaign is having respect for my football club, our football club, Liverpool Football Club, and if I feel that they're suffering in any way, shape or form, I'll need to go the same route some other people do, and see if we can gain some benefit from that."

Wayne Rooney bags a hat-trick and Javier Hernandez scores twice as a rampant Manchester United outclass Bolton 5-0 to go top of the Premier League.

The Reds were guilty of missing several opportunities to score, with Luis Suarez in particular missing a chance in injury time, but Dalglish had no complaints towards Stoke and even praised them for their resolute performance.

"They played very, very hard. They played well. They got their goal and they defended their goal courageously at times, maybe occasionally they got a bit of luck," he said.

"We don't have anything but appreciation for the way that they played and the way they held on to the game and [went] on and won."

"However, I just can't see how that it's a penalty kick. I just can't."

Meanwhile, buoyant Stoke boss Tony Pulis believes his side's win embodied everything the Potters are about.

"Our DNA is 'up and at them' and making sure we work as hard as we possibly can. To win today is great for everybody at this football club," Pulis told Sky Sports.

"In the second half, that one incident around 60 minutes where three or four of the lads were throwing themselves at the ball - that typifies what we're all about."

Stoke now face a string of tough fixtures across three different competitions including their maiden Europa League campaign.

The Potters will face Dynamo Kiev, Sunderland, Tottenham and Manchester United in a difficult run, but Pulis is far from daunted.

"The fact that we're in the Europa League as well is brilliant. What we've got to be careful with is that we manage it carefully and the Premiership is our priority," he said.

"But we want to embrace it as much as we can. The players are looking forward to it and we'll give it our best shot."

SUNDERLAND V CHELSEA

Chelsea cruised to their third Premier League win in a row as they beat Sunderland 2-1 at the Stadium of Light thanks to goals from John Terry and Daniel Sturridge.

Both teams were without their record signings, with Asamoah Gyan omitted from the Black Cats' side in view of his imminent departure for United Arab Emirates team Al-Ain, while Chelsea's Fernando Torres was left on the bench by Andre Villas-Boas.

Despite their problems this campaign it was the home side who came close to opening the scoring when new signing Nicklas Bendtner headed Seb Larsson's free-kick just wide of the returning Petr Cech's post after the Dane had peeled off his marker in the 18-yard box.

However, Chelsea responded straight away and took the lead in the 18th minute through Terry when he volleyed home from a tight angle after Sunderland had failed to clear their lines from a Blues free-kick when Juan Mata hit the post.

Villas-Boas' side began to get a firm grip on the game and had opportunities to double their lead through Nicolas Anelka and Ramires who saw efforts flash just over Simon Mignolet's bar.

It took a great save from Mignolet to stop a second goal for Chelsea as the Belgian international blocked an Anelka shot brilliantly to keep his team in the game.

Wes Brown was having a cracking game in the heart of the Sunderland defence as he denied Anelka and Sturridge on two occasions as they bore down on goal.

The hard work by the former Manchester United defender nearly paid dividends for the Black Cats as Stephane Sessegnon came close just before half-time as he forced Cech into a save from his vicious half-volley.

After the break, Chelsea resumed their stranglehold on the game and got a deserved second goal through Sturridge, who raced clear of the Sunderland defence and cheekily back-heeled the ball past Mignolet into the net despite the best efforts of Brown to keep it out.

The Blues almost grabbed a third as a failed clearance fell to substitute Florent Malouda but he was denied by Mignolet.

Sunderland tried to make it a grandstand finish as they finally found a way through the Chelsea defence in the 90th minute as Dong-Won tapped in from close range after latching onto Larsson's cross.

However they couldn't complete the comeback and slumped to their second home defeat of the season as Chelsea ran out deserved winners.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP

Brighton and Southampton maintained their places in the Championship's top two with wins on Saturday, while Leeds also won.

Leaders Brighton claimed a 1-0 away win over Bristol City at Ashton Gate Stadium, with Ashley Barnes scoring the winner in the 80th minute.

The promoted club maintained a slender one-point advantage over fellow promoted outfit Southampton, who battled to a 3-2 home win over Nottingham Forest.

Rickie Lambert scored a hat-trick for Saints in the victory, netting two in the first half, before breaking the 2-2 deadlock on 82 minutes to please the St Mary's Stadium faithful.

Leeds United fought back from a deficit to salute 3-2 over Crystal Palace at Elland Road, with a Ross McCormack brace sandwiching a goal to Lucciano Becchio on return from injury for the hosts.

West Ham United opened their winning account at home this term with a pulsating 4-3 win over Portsmouth, as both sides finished with 10 men.

Mark Noble broke a 2-2 deadlock in the 72nd minute from the penalty spot, before Carlton Cole made sure of the result five minutes later.

Greg Halford scored a consolation penalty for the visitors in the seventh minute of injury time - which was not enough for Steve Cotterill's men.

Cardiff City deepened Doncaster Rovers' woes with a 2-0 win at Cardiff City Stadium, courtesy of second-half goals to Anthony Gerrard and Robert Earnshaw - ensuring Rovers continued to prop up the table in 24th spot.

Ipswich Town conceded 14 goals in their first five games - the most of any team in the league by five - and Blackpool added two more to that tally in a 2-0 victory at Bloomfield Road.

Gary Taylor-Fletcher and Barry Ferguson were on target for the Seasiders.

Middlesbrough marched into third spot on the table with a 2-0 away win over Burnley at Turf Moor, with Nick Bailey and Joe Bennett on the scoresheet for Tony Mowbray's men.

In other results, Watford accounted for Reading 2-0 away from home, while Hull were also victorious on the road in a 1-0 result over Peterborough.

Leicester City held Barnsley to a 1-1 stalemate away at Oakwell Stadium.

In the late game, Derby County lost their second consecutive match after their brilliant start to the campaign, going down 2-0 away at Coventry City.

GERMANY

Bayern Munich have fired a sensational seven goals past hapless Freiburg to surge to the top of the German Bundesliga.

Mario Gomez scored four, including one from the penalty spot, in a masterful performance while Franck Ribery bagged a brace in the 7-0 rout.

Nils Petersen scored late on to rub more salt into Freiburg's wounds and catapult Bayern into first ahead of Borussia Monchengladbach and Bayer Leverkusen.

The title favourites have now scored 18 goals in their past five matches in all competitions and have not conceded a single goal in that time.

Borussia Monchengladbach did things a little more subtly, securing a 1-0 home win over Kaiserslautern.

Juan Arango's 58th-minute goal was all that separated the sides.

Reigning champions Borussia Dortmund continued their slow start to the season with a shock 2-1 loss to Hertha Berlin in a fiery encounter.

Robert Lewandowski's late goal for Dortmund ensured a nervy finish but it was a case of too little, too late for the home side after Peter Niemeyer had put Hertha 2-0 up.

A Claudio Pizarro brace helped Werder Bremen to a 2-0 win over Hamburg - and to second place on the league table.

Mainz were hammered 4-0 at home by Hoffenheim. A double from former Liverpool man Ryan Babel as well as goals from Roberto Firmino and Nikolce Noveski (own goal) made it a torrid afternoon for Mainz.

Hoffenheim now move up to fourth while Stuttgart sit in ninth thanks to a 3-0 home win over Hannover.

FRANCE

Lyon remain on top of Ligue 1 after a 2-1 win at Dijon while Lille's resurgence continued on Saturday.

Lyon travelled to the Stade Gaston Gerard hoping to continue their unbeaten run in the league and they made the perfect start when Maxime Gonalons scored after just seven minutes.

But the hosts managed a leveller just before half-time when Benjamin Corgnet converted Brice Jovial's assist.

Lyon secured all three points when Bafetimbi Gomis hit the back of the net on 53 minutes, with the hosts' best efforts to gain an equaliser in vain.

Defending champions Lille had to come from behind in their 3-1 win at Saint-Etienne, with defender David Rozehnal putting the ball into his own net after just eight minutes.

The hosts had Loris Nery sent off after 35 minutes which swung the game in Lille's favour and the highly rated Eden Hazard took full advantage in the second half, with the Belgian scoring twice in 18 minutes.

Polish substitute Ludovic Obraniak bagged Lille's third with four minutes to play, giving them their third win in a row.

Toulouse sit third after Etienne Capoue scored a stoppage-time winner in their 1-0 triumph at Caen, while Stade Rennes won by the same scoreline at Marseille, with Jires Kembo-Ekoko's goal 14 minutes from time enough to decide the match.

Frederic Sammaritano scored a second-half double as Ajaccio came from behind to beat Valenciennes 3-1, Swiss forward Innocent Emeghara's late equaliser gave Lorient a point in a 1-1 draw at Sochaux and Bordeaux and Evian played out a goalless draw.

SCOTLAND

Rangers sunk 10-man Dundee to stay top of the Scottish Premier League while rivals Celtic trounced Motherwell 4-0.

Dundee's Johnny Russell was sent from the field for a headbutt on Kirk Broadfoot with Rangers eventually making the advantage count through Kyle Lafferty's 61st-minute header.

Steven Davis struck both posts as the visitors pressed for a second but the three points were never really in doubt as Rangers won 1-0.

James Forrest put Celtic ahead as they set about leap-frogging Motherwell into second place.

Joe Ledley put the hosts two up just before the interval before Ki Sung-Yeung's superb strike had them three goals ahead on 67 minutes.

Another Celtic counter saw Forrest complete his brace with the Glasgow giants maintaining the pressure on Rangers, sitting just a point behind the leaders after six matches.

Kilmarnock moved up to fourth with a thrilling 3-2 win over Dunfermline at Rugby Park.

A double from Paul Heffernan and Zdenek Kroca's curled finish after 62 minutes sealed the three points after the visitors had equalised at 2-2.

Meanwhile, Inverness shared the spoils with Hearts at 1-1, Stephen Elliott cancelling out Gregory Tade's strike for Inverness.

St Mirren also had to settle for a point with their entertaining encounter with St Johnstone ending in a goalless draw.

Five sentenced to life for violence in Argentine football

Latin Wrap

Francis **Fields**

In sad off-field news coming from Argentina, five violent barra brava or hooligan supporters of Argentina's River Plate were today sentenced to life in prison for the murder of fellow soccer fan Gonzálo Acro in August 2007 in Buenos Aires according to reports today by Olé sports newspaper.

The four condemned to life in prison include Alan Schlenker, 35, and his brother William, 31, both former leaders of a dangerous local crime gang, members of River Plate's hooligan group Los Borrachos del Tablón (The drunks of the terraces) are both sons of a wealthy military officer.

Ariel Luna, Rubén Pintos and Pablo Girón, all 35 years of age were also handed down life sentences for what the Argentine court said was their role in "instigating the murder" of Acro, who was shot in the northern Buenos Aires suburb of Villa Urquiza.

A sixth man, Martín Lococo, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for his role in the criminal act.

Acro, who was 29 years old at the time, died on August 9th, 2007 at the Pirovano Hospital, two days after being fatally wounded when he was shot by the men on his way out of a local fitness gymnasium.

River Plate continues on a surge of negative publicity as one of South America's most famous clubs were relegated earlier this year for the first time in their history but currently top the Primera B (second division) table.

Copa Sudamericana results during the past week

Reigning Argentinian champions Vélez Sarsfield have progressed through to the Copa Bridgestone Sudamericana round-of-16 by hammering compatriots Argentinos Juniors 4-0 in the return leg of the second phase.

Club boss Ricardo Gareca says he still finds room for improvement if they are to ensure any progression in the continental tournament.

El Fortínwere able to build on the goalless draw in the first leg at La Paternal as visitors and never looked back after former Villarreal and West Ham forward Guillermo Franco had given them a 23rd-minute lead, heading in following good work from teammate Juan Manuel Martínez.

It was 2-0 in the 55th minute when midfielder Augusto Fernández stole the ball and advanced into the box before beating Argentinos goalkeeper Luis Ojeda.

Martínez then made it 3-0 in the 74th minute with a penalty before midfielder Héctor Canteros rounded off the win with six minutes remaining.

However boss Gareca said: "We have shown important things on the field but we still have other areas to be corrected. We are still doing the same mistakes we cannot afford to do and Argentinos had some opportunities to equalise when we were ahead 1-0. We were in need of a victory like this one."

This result also capped off a goalless draw between fellow Argentine club Lanús and Godoy Cruz in their respective tie.

In Santiago, Chilean giants Universidad Católica made an important step towards the round-of-16 of the Copa Bridgestone Sudamericana as they defeated northern Chilean outfit Deportes Iquique 2-1 in the first leg today at the San Carlos de Apoquindo stadium.

Milovan Mirosevic headed in Rodrigo Valenzuela's cross to open the scoring in the 37th minute, with youngster Enzo Andía doubling the margin six minutes into the second half cleaning up a cross from midfielder Francisco Pizarro.

In the last ten minutes of the match however Michael Ríos reduced the deficit in the 81st minute - a goal which may prove crucial with the return match scheduled for Thursday at the Tierra de Campeones stadium in the northern beachside city of Iquique

It was a just result for the cruzados as the match marked the return of its club legend Milovan Mirosevic after a contractual tug-of-war with UAE club Al-Ain.

The match was a completely different affair in contrast to the first round of the Chilean domestic Apertura championship.

Intense snow poured down the second half in that match and where the home side pounced 4-1. This time around it was a solid performance by Fernando Vergara and his northern city side as the Copa Sudamericana tie remains open as the winner faces Argentine champion Vélez Sarsfield.

Diego Aguirre, now former coach at Peñarol seen in happier times when reaching this year's Copa Libertadores final.

Palmeiras playmaker and Chilean international Jorge Valdivia has caused quite the stir at the club and will be released back to the Middle East.

Palmeiras ready to off-load star midfielder

Injuries and poor performances of late have taken its toll for midfield maestro Jorge Valdivia, "el mago" or the magician as he is nicknamed. The "Verdão" of Brazilian club side Palmeiras have declared the Chilean international is on the transfer market and listed as transferrable.

The Palmeiras board are in talks with Al Sadd of Qatar who are ready to put US$11.5 million on the table for his services.

At the Palestra Italia, the São Paulo-based club are not happy with Valdivia's latest run of matches in the Brasileirão national championship, hence the local press have been informed today there are talks with the Qatari club.

Constant injuries and uncertainty with having Valdivia in the starting line-up, along with frequent national team call-ups, are annoying both the coach and club board at Palmeiras.

Osorio Furlan, an agent and owner of 36% of the clearance under the name of Valdivia, declared that on Monday he spoke with club president Arnaldo Tirone discussing ways to sell the player. There is a very attractive and concrete offer on the table and one that will surely be given the green light.

The option to sell Valdivia will generate huge income to the Brazilian club, whom are still paying out the $US 9 million buy-back loan to acquire the Chilean back from his previous club Al Ain in the United Arab Emirates.

Youth academy deal

Reports from Uruguayan sports daily El País have speculation there is confirmation that club side Nacional of Montevideo are set to lock an exchange player agreement between the Uruguayan giant and Liverpool.

Liverpool director of football Damien Comolli had previously claimed talks were to take place between the two parties following the signing of Sebastián Coates from the club.

Nacional club director Alejandro Balbi has revealed that these discussions are scheduled to take place within the next fortnight.

"We will meet in the next few weeks to come to an arrangement over an exchange programme," said the club director.

"Liverpool have seen that a lot of talent has come through our Academy in recent years – not just Luis Suárez and Sebastián Coates, but 14 of the 23 who won the Copa América, and so they expressed an interest in establishing a formal connection."

There are also reports that the Reds are looking to tie-up a five-year deal with Nacional that could give coach Kenny Dalglish first pick on some of their top young talent coming through the ranks.

Five youngsters at the Montevideo giants are already the subject of talk as possible players Liverpool could target, with Sebastián Charquero, Matías Cabrera and Nicolás López three players the Anfield outfit could pursue.

Speaking of club side Nacional, its Argentinean coach Mareclo Gallardo - a former great player himself ensured he is awaiting the recoveries of both Tabaré Viudez and Facundo Píriz, returning from national team duty where Uruguay competes in the Panamerican Games soon.

The side may very well start out exactly the same as against Racing last week with the exception of left back Gonzálo Godoy at the expense of Jadson Viera, the other player in doubt.

However Gallardo expressed his intentions of not starting club great and former Inter Milan forward Álvaro Recoba from the start as he is more "useful in attack" when coming off the bench.

"Recoba is a different player altogether, technically and mentally speaking. His head is at another wavelength thus his football is much more slower than the usual pace therefore he makes a huge difference when coming on as a substitute. He expressed his desire to play for Nacional and he has got his wish. To be honest though, given his capacities, I don't see him playing the full 90 minutes."

The main worrying issue for Gallardo are the two currently involved with the Uruguayan national team for the Panamerican Games as he expressed the number may well tally up to six in total.

Coach Gallardo also spoke about Australian-born Richard Porta and Argentine duo Nello Matías Sosa and midfielder Raúl Poclaba.

"Sosa only has 19 years of age and has a lot of talent so I will slowly give him his chance. It is all about confidence and he has earned his spot while Poclaba can deliver a lot despite a poor debut because I believe in him."

On Richard Porta, "he did not play last week as the idea was to start with Joaquín Boghossian up front as a reference to Viudez's attacking partnership". One that Gallardo hopes can weigh up as a perfect alternative.

Peñarol coach Aguirre surprisingly quits for Qatar

For Peñarol, coach Diego Aguirre announced during the week he is leaving the Uruguayan club giants for "a very important project that encompasses the economic and sporting endeavours." He signalled that he understands the frustration by fans but his "idea is not to please anybody but to do his best".

Diego Aguirre spoke with the press yesterday after bidding farewell to his squad of players and club staff at Los Aromos in Montevideo and explained the reasons of his departure.

Aguirre admitted, "it was not an easy and sensitive decision to make." Further more, Aguirre explained that the proposal is not that same one he had to deal with before signing with Peñarol for this season.

"I am very proud to have contributed this year to Peñarol achieving everything we did. Today, Peñarol is back to its glorious past with its heights and having reached the Copa Libertadores final was a result of a lot of hard work. I am very thankful and lucky to have worked with everybody here because normally the coach leaves or gets the sack immediately after losing such a final."

"I would like to thank the fans especially and the group of players that I got to work with. No doubt it has been one of the most beautiful moments in my career. I love Peñarol and will always be a 'Manya' at heart", he concluded.

When asked about the conmotion especially online on social network sites, the news came a bit of a shock. When asked where he will be moving, Aguirre responded, "I am aware people are not happy of me leaving but I am heading to Qatar with my agents Enrique Carreras and Fernando Pignatares and they are the same who have worked with getting Diego Lugano across to Paris Saint Germain, hence they are very ambitious people involved behind the game", said Aguirre.

There is the possibility former coach Diego Aguirre may take Carlos Valdéz to his new Qatari side, Al Rayyan. The second option would be another Peñarol defender, Emilion MacEachen who has been suggested by Aguirre is somebody who has grown in confidence and in performances over the year.

Lessons learnt from the revival of cup competition

Robert Di Fabio

The curtains are gradually closing on yet another exhilarating campaign of Victorian football. Whilst the league season has customarily been at the forefront of fans' attention, this year we've seen the introduction of cup football. The subsequent competition – the Mirabella Cup – has held immense praise from football fans around the state, with cup football being in recession since 2004, where Green Gully Cavaliers took at the erstwhile Dockerty Cup competition.

Former NSL champion Melbourne Knights locked horns with Northcote City, a club who has risen to prominence since their championship winning season in 2009, where they won the Stage League One division. The finale at the amphitheatre of Victorian football – AAMI Park – was a wonderful occasion where Northcote City prevailed 2-0 to lift the inaugural Mirabella Cup trophy.

Currently, the Mirabella Cup is the largest club cup competition to surface in Australia, with almost 200 teams electing to participate in the innovative tournament. Amid the competition being organised on short notice back in February, the Mirabella Cup is anticipated to cultivate, with widespread participation from clubs from metropolitan and regional Victoria.

Talk has been ongoing in relation to a prospective nationwide cup competition – the FFA Cup – although no set agenda has been set at present. It is believed that the head governing body, the FFA along with the relative state affiliates have had formal discussions on the competition's looming presence.

When speaking to FFV president, Nick Monteleone, he was buoyant about the prospect of there being a nationwide cup competition within the near future. Monteleone believes that the relative state federations have a thorough part to play if the FFA Cup is to come into fruition. How the structure of the imminent cup will transpire is unknown currently, although a qualifying stage from each state will likely be the foundation to succeeding to the main draw.

With 10 A-League outfits, a round of 32 for the main FFA Cup draw appears to be the most feasible option. Thus, 22 clubs plying their trade under the state branches would be given the opportunity to star on the elite stage.

One of the major objectives is to unify supporters of the more traditional clubs – in the vein of – Melbourne Knights, South Melbourne and Sydney Olympic – to the mainstream football market, whilst also allowing the sentiment of community football being aligned with the elite football tier, the A-League.

As we've witnessed in the Mirabella Cup, the component of cup football is an exclusive contingent. Whilst the respective league divisions are commonly the major attraction, the allure of cup football does contain its significant advantages.

've conducted a review, showcasing some of the highs, as well as the elements that could be improved for the future instalments of the Mirabella Cup:

Cobram Victory defeated Ballarat Red Devils 2-1 in the curtain raiser match to Saturday's Mirabella Cup final. Both regional clubs clubs were rewarded for their impressive giantkilling cup exploits with the opportunity to play at AAMI Park and contested a specially commemorated Regional Challenge Trophy to mark the occassion. Photo: DANIEL FLIS

Highlights:

1. Widespread exposure to the grassroots game. While publicity for community football can be vastly improved, it's a step in the right direction.
2. We've witnessed fairytale scenarios come to fulfilment. Cobram Victory's notable dream run was one of the major highlights of this year's edition. Triumphing over Whittlesea Zebras and FC Clifton Hill, to ultimately reach the Final 12 – facing renowned VPL outfits, Melbourne Knights at Knights Stadium – was a magnificent tale that will long be remembered.
3. The cup has allows regional Victoria to play an integral part of the competition, with Ballarat Red Devils and Cobram Victory proceeding to the Final 12.
4. The excitement, tension and drama of knockout football are seemingly evident throughout the Mirabella Cup. With no second chances, it gives clubs and fans much to eagerly await.
5. The opportunity for clubs to test their temperament, skills and fortitude against outfits in different division and surrounding is only apparent in cup football. Supporters love to embrace the underdog tag.

Constructive analysis:

1. The FFA's involvement in the cup was simply unacceptable. Initially, the FFV had gained permission to allow A-League affiliates – Victory and Heart – to compete in the competition. It proved a masterstroke as many football fans were greatly interested in the sentiment of A-League clubs playing against the best clubs in the Victorian state. Although, in an unprecedented turn of events, the FFA prohibited the Victorian A-League affiliates from participating halfway through the competition. Ben Buckley's justifications were: it may undermine the prospective FFA Cup and the landscape of football has significantly changed since the competition's inception. Such thin explanation not only alienates support for the FFA/A-League, it was a fantastic opportunity to engage community and A-League football as one. The exposure for the Mirabella Cup would have been much more proactive, and more importantly, publicity for community and grassroots football would have been an implausible injection the game deservingly acquires. The FFA must stop thinking from a fiscal perspective; yes the FFA wouldn't have gained much revenue from the competition, although is would have gained support and exposure in the community, which would in turn lead to growth in the code's growth.
2. A more concentrated effort needs to be implemented for exposure of the Mirabella Cup. I applaud the FFV for their continuous efforts to improve the game and cultivate the sport. Although, with minimal mainstream publicity for the tournament, the FFV should help themselves in creating awareness to the wider community. Initiatives to encourage fans to the Final are a great example. Allocating free tickets to all junior players within the state would be a wonderful proposal to engage the football community with the pinnacle events on our football calendar. With the Mirabella Cup Final being played on a Saturday afternoon – when all the State, Provisional and Metropolitan leagues play – it acutely alienates the football community from attending. It is understood that AAMI Park availability was limited, due to Melbourne Storm, although hopefully this can be rectified next year.
3. With the Semi-Finals being played at neutral venues, a bright proposal could be to apply doubleheaders. This in turn will give fans more of an incentive to attend, and should increase gate receipts, instead of diluting the support at different venues.

The Mirabella Cup has been a wonderful addition to the Victorian football calendar. I've thoroughly enjoyed covering the competition since its announcement in February, all the way through to the Final at AAMI Park on September 10. I hope all my readers have enjoyed my coverage throughout the season and have embraced the facet of what the Mirabella Cup transpires in Victorian football. I look to forward next year, as we endeavour to see the Mirabella Cup develop and continue the traditions of the Dockerty Cup.

Follow Robert on Twitter @ RobertDiFabio

Real capitalise on Barca slip-up

Viva Espana

Pepe Lopez

Goals from Xavi and Cesc Fabregas had Barca 2 goals up away to Real Sociedad in just over 10 minutes, in what appeared to be ominous start for the European and Spanish Champions.

However, that scoreline was the last action that was conducted according to the usual script. On the half hour, new Barca signing from Italian Serie A club Udinese, Alex Sanchez tore a muscle at the back of his right thigh, and is expected to miss up to the next 2 months of football. In a stunning turn of the tide, Real Sociedad scored twice in the first 10 minutes of the second half.

Goals from Imanol Agirretxe and Frenchman Antoine Griezmann restored parity at the Estadio Anoeta in the Basque country. The scores remained locked at 2-all, but for the remainder of the second half it was Real Sociedad who looked most likely to score, and the home supporters were warranted to feel disappointed in not claiming all 3 points.

Perhaps the shock loss of points was a surprise to all except the Barcelona's coach Pep Guardiola, who was quoted on the Barcelona FC web-site prior to the match; "It is always a bit hard to get back to things after international matches. We have to prepare well and work very hard. Real Sociedad play differently to what they did last season, I'm very impressed with their team and they have some things that have surprised me. They move around in a similar way to us". After the match Barca goalkeeper Victor Valdes stated; "They got two goals to tie the game. Was it to our discredit or their credit? A bit of both, That's part of the game... It shows nothing is easy. You have to concentrate for 90 minutes because it's no good to dominate the whole first half but not the second." Barcelona will now face AC Milan in a mid-week UEFA Champions League match.

Real Madrid took advantage of Barcelona's slip-up to build a two-point gap at the top of the table after they beat Getafe 4-2.

Karim Benzema's 14th minute opener was cancelled out by Venezuelan striker Nicolas Fedor six minutes before half-time.

Cristiano Ronadlo scored his fourth goal of the season on the hour from the penalty spot and when Benzema got his second nine minutes later, Real seemed set for victory.

But Fedor quickly responded for Getafe and ensured a somewhat nervy finish, before substitute Gonzalo Higuain killed off the contest with his goal just two minutes before the end.

In other games, 40 Million Euro Atletico Madrid signing Radamel Falcao made a flat debut for his new club, not even registering a single strike on goal in 90 minutes of football away to Valencia.

Instead Valencia's Roberto Soldado stole the show with a 52nd minute unstoppable headed goal assisted by a Luis Miguel cross. Valencia's opening goal was the queue for new Atletico Madrid coach Gregorio Manzano to introduce 2 other big signings Turkish captain Arda Turan and Brazilian Diego. Whilst Atleti dominated the remainder of the match and ball possession overall, they could not find their way to the back of Valencia's net, once just denied by Valencia goalkeeper Vicente Panadero, when Jose Antonio Reyes put through Arda Turan, and again by referee Jose Luis Gonzalez, when Diego was pushed in the back in front of the Valencia goal mouth. The match was watched by Spanish National Coach Vicente Del Bosque, a few new faces could be appearing in the next Spanish Euro2012 qualifying squad.

Spanish Saturday Scores;
Real Sociedad 2 - 2 Barcelona
Villarreal 2 - 2 Sevilla
Real Madrid 4 - 2 Getafe
Valencia 1 - 0 Atletico Madrid

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Goodwin Earns Himself A NYL Contract

Daniel **Quinn**

Craig Goodwin of Victorian Premier League (VPL) side Oakleigh Cannons is one of Melbourne Heart's newest additions to their inaugural season in the National Youth League (NYL). Melbourne Heart's youth team, coached by former Socceroo John Aloisi and his Assistant Arthur Papas. Papas is currently the Head Coach of Oakleigh Cannons and identified Craig as a player to take along into the NYL.

Craig was born on the 16th of December 1991 in Adelaide, South Australia to British parents. An English father and a Scottish mother. Craig a typical winger started his Football career in South Australia at Munno Para City Soccer Club where he played from the age of six to twelve. Craig then spent two seasons with Para Hills Knights Soccer Club between the ages of thirteen and fifteen before moving onto Enfield City Falcons Football Club during the ages of fifteen and sixteen.

It was until the 2009 season with Adelaide Croatia Raiders where Craig got his breakthrough. It was under John Duffy and later former A-League coach John Kosmina who taught him how to be a Footballer and still is grateful for the opportunity. In the 2009 season he won 5RTI radio station's rising star award. 5RTI is an Italian Radio station who cover all the Raiders' games. The next season Craig then one Adelaide Croatia Raiders' Rising Star Award for his impressive performances.

During his two seasons with the Raiders' he had trails with A-League side Adelaide Utd. However despite impressing he missed out on a contract. A set back in his career which he has put right behind him and turned his focus to the current.

At the start of the 2011 season Craig was convinced to move to Melbourne to join Oakleigh Cannons in the VPL by Arthur Papas. Papas who only recently joined had only four or five players in preseason and Craig was seen as a young player to build his squad. After Papas agreed to join Melbourne Heart's youth team he decided to offer Craig the chance to move with him, an opportunity which Craig gratefully agreed to.

I sat down with Craig to talk Football, Arthur Papas, Oakliegh Cannons and Melbourne Heart.

DQ: Earliest Football Memory:
CG: Under 6's I scored a goal that my parents got on video when I ran half the pitch and scored. That I my earliest Football Memory.

DQ: Football idols:
CG: Fernando Torres without a doubt when he was at Liverpool.

DQ: Is he still your idol at Chelsea?
CG: Yeah he is. He is still my idol even though he left.

DQ: Goal in Football career:
CG: To play at the highest level that I could possibly play at. So Socceroos is my aim in the long term.

DQ: What made you want to play Football?
CG: I guess my brother. My dad got my brother into playing Football and then I used to kick the ball around with my brother at home or the park all the time, all day long and I guess that's what got me into it.

DQ: Which club do you wish to play for?
CG: Liverpool.

DQ: What are your strengths?
CG: Taking on players, crossing, I don't really know. It's hard to say your strengths. It's easier for some else to say a player's strengths. But I don't know, taking on players, crossing. I Can shoot as well. I know where the goal is.

DQ: What are you weaknesses?
CG: This year I work on it a lot with Arthur Papas, just positioning probably be one I'll say. Sometimes it's more defensive positioning and defensive transition.

DQ: How well do you think you have done this past season in the VPL for Oakleigh?
CG: I'd say I don't quite well. It's been a big step coming from the South Australian League to the VPL. The standard is much higher, it's much more physical. And for a first season I'd say I've done very well. I've accomplished what I aimed for when I came here. To get the contract for Melbourne Heart's youth team. Overall it's a very good year so far. We waited for the Grand Final for the VPL, disappointing to lose that but it is a good accomplishment to get there. Especially in the first year and first ever time the club have got there in their history.

DQ: Do you do anything different or special in training to improve as a player?
CG: More just working on the little things that the coaches say you need to work on, in those areas. I'll get out to training early and I'll finish late to work on passing, shooting and juggling. All those sorts of things, the things I could do by myself. And if another player wants to come out then we will do different passing exercises, shooting exercises, those sorts of things.

DQ: Do you do anything different or special in training to impress the coach/manager?
CG: Of course everyone wants to impress the coach. I wouldn't say I do everything to impress him. I just try to play my normal game and work on the things that need improving. I guess I just try and do my best and that is how I try and impress the coach.

DQ: Do you feel pressure to perform?
CG: Not really from people around me. I put pressure on myself to perform. If I'm not performing well then I'm not happy with myself. So I guess I do feel a bit of pressure on myself to perform because I know what I am capable of and if I have a bad game then I am not happy with myself so I got to improve it.

DQ: Are you happy with your current club situation?
CG: Yeah definitely. I'm very happy at Oakleigh Cannons at the moment then I will be with Melbourne Heart over the summer. Oakleigh treated me very well since coming over from Adelaide. They have set me up in house and they've provided me with a lot of things I needed and helped me out whenever they can so I am very happy with my club situation at the moment.

DQ: How did you go with game time this season?
CG: I started about 7 or 8 games then featured off the bench in most of the other ones whether it be ten minutes or half a game but I feel every time I got some game time I've made an impact in one way or another. I guess my goal for next season is to cement a starting position which I know I am more than capable of.

Craig Goodwin scores the winner for Oakleigh Cannons against South Melbourne in the VPL Top Five Series recently. Photo: ANITA MILAS

DQ: Are you satisfied with the game time?
CG: Of course it's frustrating for any player when they are constantly not getting a good amount of game time. I would say I am a little bit frustrated but It's that I keep working on what I need to be doing and Arthur told me what I need to do improve but it's his decision. We have got a good squad at Oakleigh and we did make the Grand Final. And I know that wether I'm on the bench or starting there is a part for me in the game and when I come on I got to make impact and show that I am Worthing of a starting position next week.

DQ: What did you learn from your experience with Oakleigh in the VPL?
CG: It's a much faster paced league. It helps you to learn to play the quicker game so like one and two touch and the moving. It's a lot more physical as well. I'm not the biggest player but I have learnt to use my body to shield the ball more. It's more experience as well. It's a lot harder to play then in South Australia. I've Learned a lot in my first year and I hope it continues through to next season as well.

DQ: What can you tell us about Oakleigh head coach Arthur Papas?
CG: Arthur is a fantastic coach. Probably the best coach I've had in my career up to now. I'm very happy I get the chance to work with him for the youth league as well as he is the Assistant Coach at Melbourne Heart. The detail that he goes into the training sessions, everything has a purpose and he is a fantastic coach and I know that he is going to be a big coach of the future.

DQ: You have signed on with Melbourne Heart. Why Melbourne Heart?
CG: I guess being in Adelaide I was in selection for the youth team there but I didn't make it for other reasons, I don't know why. Melbourne Heart have given me the opportunity to play in the Youth League. It's a great opportunity to promote my career and hopefully get an A-League first team spot at the end of the season. That is my goal and that is really why I took the contract the offered me.

DQ: Were there any other offers from any other clubs?
CG: No. There hasn't been any offers from other A-League clubs. Just Melbourne Heart that came to me.

DQ: So it was an easy decision?
CG: Yeah it was.

DQ: What are you hopes for this upcoming NYL season?
CG: I guess to secure a starting position first of all. To learn more as a player and improve my ability. Work on things that I'm not so good at and to gradually earn myself a first team contract.

DQ: So this A-League season you are on a youth contract. What are you chances in breaking into the senior squad?
CG: To be honest, I don't really know. It's up to John van't Schip and all of the coaching staff there. I back myself as a player to make that step up. I just got to show it in this summer season in the Youth League. I just got to show that i am worthy of the step up.

DQ: With Melbourne Heart joining the NYL this season you and other younger players must be pleased that Melbourne Heart now have a youth team?
CG: Yeah definitely .Having two teams in Melbourne there is a lot of good players here and it gives more players that don't get overlooked but that don't get picked by Melbourne Victory. It gives them a chance with Melbourne Heart . I guess It gives them a chance to prove that they are quality players as well.

DQ: You must be excited to work with former Socceroo John Aloisi?
CG: Oh definitely, very excited. He has played at the highest level in Europe. Scored the winning penalty to put Australia into the World Cup. Very excited to be working with someone with his stature.

DQ: While at Adelaide Croatia Raiders you also won The Rising Star Award for the 2010 season.
CG: Yeah and the year before that I won 5RTI radio station's rising star award. They covered all the games.

DQ: You must be grateful for what Adelaide Croatia Raiders have done for your career?
CG: Definitely. They gave me my first chance to play senior Football. I learned a lot under coach John Duffy and then John Kosmina when he came in the second half of the season and I've learnt a lot from Raiders and I thank them gratefully.

DQ: Why did you leave Adelaide to move to Melbourne with Oakleigh Cannons?
CG: I guess at the time I wasn't thinking about moving to Melbourne and then Arthur Papas contacted me. He told me what could happen If I moved here, told me the opportunities and really it was him who convinced me to move over. I can over for a one week trial with Oakleigh and from then I just talking to Arthur knowing what he has to offer for me to improve me as a player and playing in the VPL as its a better standard. At the end of the day it was an pretty easy decision to move. I did move away from my family and my friends but to further my career it was an easy decision.

DQ: Last weekend you played in the VPL Grand Final vs Green Gully at AAMI Park. What did you think of AAMI Park?
CG: AAMI Park is a fantastic stadium and has a fantastic playing field and a fantastic atmosphere. There was two thousand people there and it was an amazing atmosphere with just them. I just can't image what it is like with the whole stadium full. I definitely would like to play there again, hopefully with Melbourne Heart. We have same amount when we played south melb in minor semi final.

DQ: It must be disappointing to lose 3-2 in extra-time?
CG: Of course. It's very heart breaking. We had to do it the hard way after losing to Hume in that first game, 4-3. Then we beat South Melbourne, then we beat Hume. A lot of game time for the boys because we played 120 minutes two weeks in a row. I guess it was a great effort from team. It was very heart breaking to lose in extra-time.

DQ: You lost in the Mirabella Cup Semi Final on Wednesday night, 2-1 to Melbourne Knights. You must be disappointed to be knocked out?
CG: Of course it was another chance to play at AAMI Park, a chance to win a trophy with Oakleig and of course it was very disappointing to be up 1-0 then to lose 2-1. But That's Football I guess.

DQ: How did you go in the Mirabella Cup Semi Final?
CG: Yeah I started at Attacking Midfield. To be honest it was not one of best games. Disappointed with myself really. Everyone has their bad games and their good games. Look to bounce back with next game I play.

DQ: You must of been disappointed to miss out on Adelaide Utd's squad?
CG: Yeah it was disappointing. We had the trails there and I did very well. Disappointed not to get anything out of it. But that is all in the pass now. I've not got a chance with Melbourne Heart in the Youth League so just focusing on that now and just moving on forward from there.

DQ: Would you consider playing for England or Scotland if you got the opportunity?
CG: My first preference is Australia but I guess if they knock me back Id consider playing for England or Scotland but that is not really the thing on my mind at the moment. I'm just focusing on the present and taking every day as it comes.

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Keeper, coach, enthusiast

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With Roy Hay

Jeff Olver kept goals more than 50 times for Australia and many consider him one of the best this country has ever had, but he was and is more than just the man who stopped the strikers scoring. He has coached teams at all levels, short of the national league at senior level, but he still has aspirations to do that and he has done sterling work with juniors and youth players. Last week he and George Katsakis parted company with Heidelberg United despite the team finishing fifth in the Victorian Premier League but it will not be long before Olver will be coaching again.

Born in December 1960 he played as a junior and broke into the first team at Albion Rovers as a sixteen-year-old. Albion won the Metropolitan League in 1977 and the young keeper was quickly snapped up Heidelberg United. In 1978 he came on to replace Greg Woodhouse for the Young Socceroos when they played a friendly match against Vardar Skopje as part of the preparation for the World Youth Cup in 1979, but Woodhouse retained the keeper's spot in the unsuccessful qualification tournament in Paraguay.

Jeff Olver made his National Soccer League debut while still a teenager displacing Yakka Banovic in 1980. Jimmy Rooney and Pat Bannon coached Heidelberg that year and gave the youngster his chance. The Bergers finished as runner-up to Sydney City Hakoah by a point and lost the major semi-final to the minor premier. But then Heidelberg thrashed South Melbourne four-one at Olympic Park in the preliminary final with two goals by Jamie Paton and singles from Gary Cole and Andy Bozikas. In the grand final in Canberra a Gary Cole hat-trick and another from Paton saw off Hakoah in a comprehensive triumph, with Olver keeping a clean sheet. By then Len McKendry had taken over the coaching role and he continued to put his faith in Olver.

Olver helped Heidelberg into fourth place and the finals in 1982, but Wollongong knocked the Bergers out in the semi-final. The following year there was no finals series, and Heidelberg finished sixth. In 1984 the league was split into a two-conference system in which Heidelberg chased perennial rival South Melbourne Hellas all the way to the National Conference grand final. Fifteen thousand packed into Olympic Park but Hellas proved too good winning by four goals to two.

Olver made his Socceroo debut in 1984 against Glasgow Rangers playing for the B side in a four-two defeat in Newcastle to the Scottish team. He kept a clean sheet against Iraklis also for the B team at Lang Park in Brisbane. In 1985 he replaced Terry Greedy for the World Series tournament match against Udinese in his first game for Australia which was won by two goals to one. He alternated with Greedy in matches against Red Star Belgrade that year and also had caps against China, Israel and Taiwan. When it came to the World Cup qualifiers in 1985 Jeff Olver kept Greedy on his toes with a series of excellent performances as substitute and starting alternative, but it was Greedy who got the nod for the heartbreaking final games against Scotland.

From 1986 to 1989 Olver was firmly established as the country's number one keeper. For man who was 'only a smidge over six feet' tall (his words) he commanded his area totally, and you could be outside the stadium and you would still hear him yelling, 'Away, away'. Defenders would come off with earache. The Australian penalty area was a rough, tough place with Charlie Yankos, Wally Savor, Gary McDowell, Alan Hunter and Paul Wade all determined to get the ball first—and that was only Olver's team-mates. Against New Zealand, and Olver played against them nine times, it could be total mayhem.

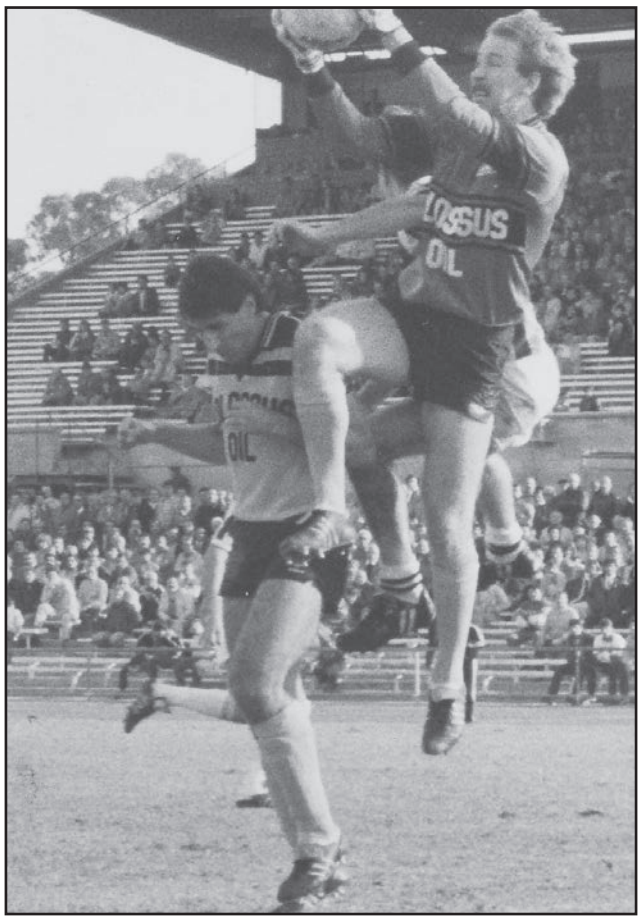
In 1989 he transferred to Melbourne Croatia for a couple of years and then returned to Heidelberg in the 1990-91 season. Heidelberg was struggling by that stage and in 1993 he signed with Bulleen in the Victorian Premier League helping the club to its first ever title and conceding only 19 goals in the twenty-eight home and away matches.

By then he was heavily involved in coaching working closely with Tim White in the Victorian Soccer Federation development programs, and showing the next generation how the game should be played. His enthusiasm and ability to conjure the maximum from young players had to be seen to be believed and he had the ability to tailor the work required to the individual needs of the youngsters under his charge. He combined playing and coaching at Bulleen in 1995 and when the Carlton club was formed in 1997 he was appointed to look after the youth team and the goalkeepers.

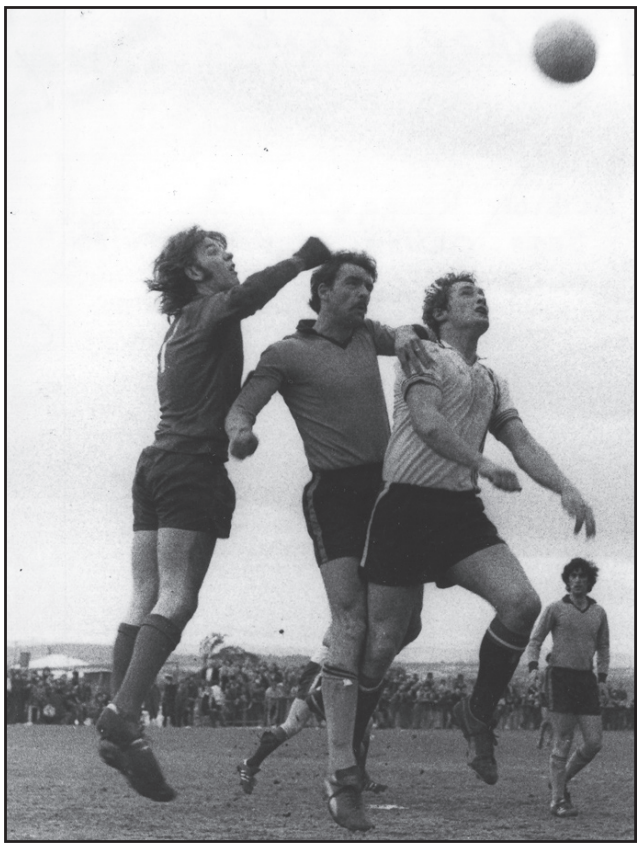
Since then he has coached at Heidelberg and Thomastown and this season he helped George Katsakis take the Bergers to fifth place in the Premier League. Though this column is supposed to be about history, Jeff Olver still has a big contribution to make to the future of this game.

Classic catch. Source: Les Shorrock collection, Deakin University Library.

Jeff Olver gets the ball away from Robbie Ironside of the All Whites, and Socceroo Gary McDowell, while for once Alan Davidson decides its better to watch. Photo: Les Shorrock. Les Shorrock collection, Deakin University Library.



Jeff Olver grabs the ball from Charlie Yankos and Joe Mullen for Heidelberg against Adelaide City at Hindmarsh Stadium. Source: Les Shorrock collection, Deakin University Library.



A young Jeff Olver punches clear of Wark and Reid for Albion Rovers against George Cross on 2 October 1977. Photo: B Waslin. Les Shorrock collection, Deakin University Library.

Jeff Olver celebrating with the Socceroos after winning the Trans Tasman trophy against New Zealand in Bendigo in 1988. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

Jeff Olver coaching Joe Fiala in Geelong. Photo: ROY HAY

SOUTH HOBART FC

FORESTRY TASMANIA CHAMPIONS 2011

PHOTO: WALTER PLESS

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South Hobart win Tassie grand final yet again

TAS

Walter Pless

South Hobart won the Tasmanian State-wide Top-Four series grand final at Aurora Stadium on Sunday evening by downing New Town Eagles 3-1 in extra-time.

It was another clean sweep of trophies for South Hobart for a second year running. This State-wide championship was their fifth trophy of the season.

A brilliant goal by Shae Hickey in the 18th minute gave South Hobart the lead. The midfielder gained possession 30 metres out on the left, looked up, and nonchalantly chipped the ball over keeper Nathan Pitchford and inside the far post.

Adam McKeown might have levelled in the 38th minute, but when he got onto the end of Ben Whitehall's free-kick from the left, he lifted his shot over the bar despite being unmarked.

South, who had most of the play in the opening 45 minutes, missed two chances in the closing five minutes of the half when Luke Huiglsoot sent a long-range effort high, and when Jonathon Lo fired wide of the target.

But, to South's horror, with only seconds of stoppage time remaining in the first half, Eagles equalised through midfielder Nick Ferrall, who scored with a low drive through a crowded penalty area.

South Hobart's Tom Roach (left) gets past Eagles' Nick Ferrall. Photo: WALTER PLESS

South continued their dominance of the match after the resumption, whole Eagles relied on the occasional counter-attack.

Liam Scott shot just wide of the far post for South in the 48th minute, but a quick break by Eagles in the 72nd minute saw McKeown miss a sitter. The ball rebounded to him off a defender, but he placed his shot wide when a goal seemed certain.

Ten minutes into the first period of extra-time, Tom Roach netted from the left to put South in front after Lo's shot had been deflected into his path by a defender.

South's joy was tempered, however, when their captain, Daniel Brown, was sent off 2 minutes later after collecting a second yellow card.

Being a man short hardly affected South as their physical stamina started to tell against a wilting Eagles.

Twice Andy Brennan broke through the Eagles defence to be in a one-on-one with Eagles keeper Pitchford, and twice Pitchford thwarted the youngster.

Minutes later, Pitchford again came to his side's rescue when he denied substitute Dylan Postma.

With 5 minutes of extra-time remaining, Brennan finally scored, outfoxing defender Mark Page and keeper Pitchford before walking the ball into the net.

"I thought we should have won it in normal time," said South Hobart coach, Ken Morton.

"We had a lot of possession but we didn't do a lot with it.

"When they got the goal back, it was probably from the second time they were in our half with any real threat.

"I thought we controlled the game without creating a lot of chance sin the first half, but in the second half, before we went into extra-time, I thought we could have pinched it.

"They had a good chance to pinch it, too, so it was end-to-end stuff then and a good cup-tie, but in extra-time, I thought our fitness just went over the top of them."

Eagles coach, Stephen Pitchford, said: "We're really pleased with the way we stuck at the game today.

"I'm exceptionally proud of a group of players who gave everything today and have nothing left in the tank.

"Extra-time was always going to be difficult against a side that is obviously at peak fitness.

"We thought we done enough in normal time that we thought we might have come away with a win.

"When we went behind, we had to take a few chances and, at the end, that cost us.

"I think the boys are really happy with the way they performed in the finals series and are looking forward to building on that next year."

Taroona caused an upset in the Women's State-wide Top-Four series grand final when they beat a highly fancied NTC/TIS outfit 3-2 at Aurora Stadium in the curtain-raiser to the A-League friendly between Melbourne Victory and Brisbane Roar.

Casey Boulter was the star of the show, hitting a fine hat-trick for a Taroona side that was missing several key players.

Boulter opened the scoring for the underdogs after just 3 minutes with a fine lob over the keeper, while in the 21st minute, she made it 2-0 when she slotted home from the right of the penalty area.

Lucy Foote almost scored for the NTC/TIS in the 31st minute, but her shot hit the side–netting.

She made amends on the stroke of half-time when she broke through the Taroona defence and was left with only the keeper to beat.

Ellie Gavalas made it 2-2 following a shot from range and an error by the Taroona keeper, who allowed the ball to slip from her grasp and carry through into the net.

But, with 14 minutes remaining, Boulter made it a great day for Taroona when she beat central defender Shelbi Vienna-Hallam and squeezed her shot in at the near right-hand post.

Spot-on City book Grand Final place

SA

Luca Cetta

Adelaide City overcame MetroStars 6-5 on penalties to earn a Grand Final spot against Adelaide Blue Eagles following an enthralling Top 5 Finals Series Preliminary Final, which ended 1-1 after extra time at TK Shutter Reserve on Saturday.

Jackson Groves missed the all-important penalty, firing over the crossbar to send the black and whites into their fourth consecutive Grand Final.

Scott Tunbridge could have sealed the shootout with the fifth Metro penalty but he was denied by goalkeeper Luke Ostbye and City then took control in sudden death.

Earlier, a bizarre own goal from Matt Mullen gave Metro a seventh minute lead, but Nicky Orr replied from the penalty spot six minutes into the second half.

City wing-back Jordan D'Arsie, who converted the decisive penalty, noted his team were heavy-legged going into extra time but knew there was still a long way to go.

"We were tired going into the extra 30 minutes," said D'Arsie.

"But we were told to just stay calm, soak up as much pressure as possible and go on the counter when we could. As for penalties, everybody was confident and the players stood up to take one.

"For me personally it was the first time in a while I had taken a penalty. I knew I had to put my hand up and luckily it went in."

Metro took an early lead after a mix-up in the City defence. A cross from the right was swung in and Jason Spagnuolo's attempted clearance hit Mullen, who beat his own goalkeeper!

It was a closely fought battle in the first half, with Scott Tunbridge firing the first shot on target, which went straight at Ostbye.

MetroStars' Adam Van Dommele goes to ground after Adelaide City's Jace Cummins, Paul Pezos and Nick Budin hunt in packs. Photo: ADAM BUTLER

Ricardo Da Silva had City's first opportunity after 22 minutes with the ball sitting up nicely, but he volleyed over Dan Godley's net.

A moment of inspiration from Spagnuolo gave City the chance to draw level in the 51st minute. It was his burst into the 'Stars defence which brought about a challenge from Daniel Menechella and the referee had no hesitation in pointing to the spot. Godley went the right way, but Orr got his shot low into the corner to make it 1-1.

Eli Vlassis was first to D'Arsie's cross but his effort was blocked for a corner by Metro captain Lee Robertson.

Metro found an extra gear in the final ten minutes with the retiring Ivan Karlovic firing a shot from distance which was blocked. The rebound fell to Yong but the desperate City defence deflected his effort out for a corner.

Substitute Francesco Monterosso glanced the corner goal-ward but saw it hacked away near the goal line.

Orr had the first chance of extra time two minutes in, but curled his shot just over the crossbar.

As Jace Cummins went off injured, Metro found space in front of the Adelaide City defence which Karlovic exploited in the 111th minute to drive in a cracker from 30 meters which cannoned off the crossbar.

Steven Grelli had a shot from outside the area well saved on the bounce by the impressive Ostbye as penalties loomed on the horizon.

City captain Nicky Budin took responsibility and went first in the shootout, beating Godley. Grelli sent Ostbye the wrong way to even the score.

Mullen redeemed himself for the unlucky own goal by making it 2-1, as James Yong confidently made it 2-2.

Defender Matt Halliday was the first to crack, his shot saved by Godley. David Menechella stepped up and put Metro into the lead.

Orr kept City alive with the fourth kick, but Daniel Menechella put Metro a step closer at 4-3.

Da Silva had to score or City would be eliminated, and he did his job, slotting the ball home coolly. Tunbridge then had his chance but Ostbye guessed correctly.

Paul Pezos made no mistake in the first round of sudden death, as Robertson too showed a calm presence from the spot.

D'Arsie placed his penalty into the corner to make it 6-5 and put the pressure on Groves. A tireless worker all day, his spot-kick sailed over the bar to send Metro out in straight sets, while Adelaide City marches on to Hindmarsh Stadium next weekend.

Groves, Daniel Menechella and Robertson were best on ground for MetroStars, while for Adelaide City, Mullen, Cummins and Ostbye were the standouts.

FFSA Finals Results - Week 2

DEVINE SUPER LEAGUE
Saturday September 10

PRELIMINARY FINAL
MetroStars 1 (OG), AET 1, Pen(5) v Adelaide City 1 Nicky Orr, AET 1, Pen(6) HT(1-0)

Best – MetroStars - Jackson Groves, Daniel Menechella, Lee Robertson - Adelaide City - Matthew Mullen, Jace Cummins, Luke Ostbye

Reserves – 12:00pm: Adelaide Galaxy 4 v Western Strikers 1
U19 – 9:30pm: Adelaide City 3 v Para Hills 1

DEVINE PREMIER LEAGUE
Saturday September 10

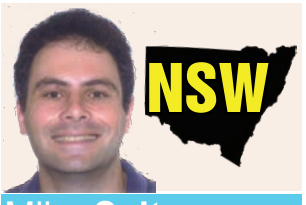
Enfield City 2 Dimi Parhas, Mark Graham v Adelaide Olympic 0 HT(1-0)
Best – Enfield City - Joe Lagana, Mark Graham, James Costa – Adelaide Olympic - Carl Robinson, Nathan Konstandopoulos, George Agalidis

Reserves – 12:00pm: Enfield City FT 1, AET 2, Pen(5) v White City FT 1, AET 2, Pen(3)
U19 – 9:30pm: Cumberland United 1 v Adelaide Comets 4

FFSA Top 5 Finals Series

Grand Final
Adelaide City
v
Adelaide Blue Eagles
Saturday, September 17th
Hindmarsh Stadium
Kick-off 3pm

UNITED INTO MAJOR SEMI, BONNYRIGG OUT



Mike Salter

Sydney United overcame the Sutherland Sharks on penalties in a tense preliminary semi-final at Jensen Park on Saturday evening. The result set up a mouthwatering clash between United and premiers Sydney Olympic next week, with an automatic place in the Grand Final at stake. Details of the United v. Sutherland encounter can be found below.

The elimination semi-final, held at Lily Homes Stadium on Sunday afternoon, was a replay of last year's Grand Final. And the result was the same, with defending champions Blacktown City remaining in the hunt for a repeat performance; trailing 1-0 with ten minutes remaining, Mark Crittenden's young team stepped up a gear and overturned the deficit with goals to Ray Miller and Travis Major in the closing minutes. Blacktown thereby earned themselves a shot at Sutherland next week in the minor semi-final.

Sydney United celebrate their penalty shoot-out win in the NSW Preliminary Semi Final while the Sutherland Sharks can't bear to face defeat. Photo: CARLOS FURTADO/ COURTESY FNSW

Sydney United 1-1 (7-6 pens.) Sutherland Sharks

Playing on neutral territory due to the poor state of their home stadium at Edensor Park, Sydney United needed penalties to get past a dogged Sutherland side who held out for an hour with ten men.

It was Steve Hayes, United's player of the season, who provided the first spark of the game after nine minutes; surging through the Sutherland backline, he laid the ball off cleverly to Luka Glavas, whose eventual shot was smothered by Sutherland keeper Nathan Denham. Soon afterwards, Hayes' powerful shot from the edge of the area rebounded off the far post.

Sutherland began to work their way into the game, and the men from the shire thought they had scored the opener on 20 minutes when Matt Bailey swept home a parried shot from Panny Nikas. Offside was given, but only two minutes later Sutherland were indeed in front.

An intricate Sutherland move on the left saw the ball worked over to Chris Price, who had time to measure a dangerous cross. It was utility midfielder Lachlan Cahill who got on the end of it, and he steered the ball in via the post.

The gave livened up in the succeeding minutes, with Ivo Bosnar and Anthony Golec both going close for United. Sutherland appeared to have weathered the onslaught as the half was drawing to a close, but unexpectedly United levelled the scores with the whistle imminent. Shoving within the area at a United set-piece saw referee Kurt Ams point to the spot, and Glavas tucked away the penalty with typical confidence.

The second half was a stop-start affair. The early period was barren of chances, and Glavas and Hayes making futile attempts to feed on scraps at the edge of the Sutherland area. On the hour, however, the match took a turn in United's favour when Sutherland right-winger Jim Bakis blatantly elbowed young Anthony Golec, leaving the referee no option but to produce a red card.

With Sutherland pulling all but frontman Pat Savor back in defence, United failed to create any clear chances prior to the full-time whistle. In extra time, it was largely the same story: although Hayes fired a shot just wide from 20 yards and Glavas failed to make the most of an accurate cross from Ben Vidaic, the Sutherland rearguard, ably marshalled by veteran captain George Souris, remained impregnable.

Penalties, unfortunately, it had to be. Souris and Michael Cindric exchanged misses in the opening set of five penalties per side, and when United led 7-6, it was the turn of Sutherland's promising young defender Hayden Morton to plant the ball on the spot. His shot came back off the crossbar, and United went through to face Sydney Olympic. All is not lost for Sutherland, however; Robbie Stanton's men will face Blacktown at home next week, with a place in the Grand Final still very much within their grasp.

NSW Results

PREMIER LEAGUE: FINAL SERIES: PRELIMINARY SEMI FINAL: FIRST GRADE: Sydney United 7 Sutherland Sharks 6 Win on penalties (1-1 F/T 1-1 E/T).
GRADE 20: Marconi Stallions 2 APIA Tigers 5. **GRADE 18**: Manly United FC 0 Sydney Olympic FC 2.

PREMIER LEAGUE: FINAL SERIES: ELIMINATION SEMI FINAL: FIRST GRADE: Blacktown City FC 2 (Raymond Miller 82m Travis Major 90m) Bonnyrigg White Eagles 1 (Bradley Boardman 50m). **GRADE 20:** Blacktown City FC 2 Parramatta Eagles 1. **GRADE 18:** Blacktown City FC 1 Bonnyrigg White Eagles 3.

DIVISION TWO: FINAL SERIES: MINOR SEMI FINAL: FIRST GRADE: Hakoah FC 2 (N Jablonski 28m J Kosmina 65m) Prospect United 0. **RESERVE GRADE:** Hakoah FC 0 Northbridge FC 2.

MAJOR SEMI FINAL: FIRST GRADE: Roosters FC 9 (A Elveren 10/80/84m Own Goal 20m B Akin 30/62m A Taslak 36/68/90m) Northbridge FC 2 (Own Goal 19m R Harding 42m). **RESERVE GRADE:** Fairfield Wanderers FC 1 Hawkesbury City 2.

Finals Series

Semi Final 1
Sutherland Sharks
vs
Blacktown City
3:00 PM Sat 17/Sep
Venue TBA

Semi Final 2
Sydney Olympic
vs
Sydney United
3:00 PM Sun 18/Sep
Venue TBA

Westfields Sports High win 33rd Bill Turner Cup

By Ray Sandell

Westfields Sports High School retained their title with a hard fought win over 1994 champions Patrician Brothers, Blacktown, who were competing in the final for only the second time.

Blacktown were by far the more impressive team in the first half and had the usually strong Westfield defence under pressure. As early as the sixth minute they caused confusion when a corner kick was brilliantly headed by tall striker Natnaeil Koko straight at goalkeeper Jayden Diacono.

Blacktown continued their onslaught and on a number of occasions Diacono was forced to make telling saves from the opposition attack.

It was no surprise when, in the 14th minute, Blacktown scored. Joshua Currie picked up a loose ball on the goal line and cooly chipped in to the Westfield goalmouth for Koko to jump high to head the ball into the net.

Westfield were limited to a few attacks that were always cut out by a busy Blacktown defence and at half time the score was unaltered.

The second half commenced with an immediate change in the Westfield attitude and effort. They invaded the Blacktown goal, but the defence stayed strong and Blacktown were reluctant to give up the single goal advantage.

Blacktown's efforts started to show and they became noticeably slower in their reactions. Westfield noticed this and "upped the ante" and the ball never seemed to leave the Blacktown half.

With ten minutes remaining, the ball was played into the Blacktown penalty area and pushed out, only to see a quickly advancing Amadour Kieta volley the ball into the top of the Blacktown net for the equaliser.

Blacktown never really recovered from this disappointment and it was only a matter of time before the inevitable happened.

With two minutes remaining, the ball came in to the Blacktown goal mouth from the right hand side. Diacono came out to gather but was beaten by a lightning quick Jordan Nadalin who side footed the ball past him for Westfield's second goal.

Two minutes later the result was confirmed when Evan Patramanis fired a vicious shot from 15 metres that left Diacono clutching thin air. 3-1!

The final whistle was blown, and Westfield had retained the championship, but not before Blacktown had given them one hell of a shock!

Well done to both teams for a hard fought and entertaining game that concluded a wonderful 2011 Bill Turner Cup season!

Details

Final: *Westfields Sports 3 (Amadou Keita 50m, Jordan Nadalin 58M, Aaron D'Mello 60+m) bt Patrician Brothers Blacktown 1 (Natnoeil Koko 14m).*

Third place play-off: *Cavendish Road 2 (Aleksa Krkeljas 43m, Aaron Tucker 57m) bt Marian Catholic College 0.*

Star Player Award: *Damon Mazzarolo – Marian Catholic College, Griffith*

Hunter Sports High beat Westfields Sports High 2-1 to claim the 2011 and 21st Bill Turner Trophy

The first half was dominated by Hunter Sports High who were much faster to the ball than a sluggish looking Westfields.

Hunter's Jemma House and Shana Stopp were proving much too quick down their respective wings and it was no surprise when Hunter opened the scoring in the tenth minute. Stopp collected a loose ball in midfield and sped away to slide a perfectly weighted shot past the advancing Westfield goalkeeper Jessica Urquhart.

Hunter continued to put pressure on the Wesfield defence but could not add to their score before half time.

Westfields Sports High School with the Bill Turner Cup. With a name like that no wonder these students have excelled in the sports department! Photo: GREG DANVERS

As often happens, fortunes completely changed in the second half with Westfield taking the ascendency and the Hunter goal immediately under pressure. Hunter suffered a tragic loss when their star defender, Isabel Lauina, suffered an ankle injury and had to leave the field and took no further part in the match.

Six minutes before full time Westfield were awarded a penalty kick and Amy Harrison made no mistake with the kick to equalise.

Full time arrived with no further addition to the score and the match went into extra time.

The game became very frantic with both teams endeavouring to get that magic "golden goal". Five minutes into the first half Hunter's Shana Stopp missed a golden opportunity to score but missed from five metres out. She repeated the effort with one minute to go to halftime.

Immediately from the goal kick, a penalty kick were awarded to Hunter for handball. Up stepped Elodie Dagg to take the kick and made no mistake to give Hunter the Bill Turner Trophy and end Westfield's run of three consecutive final wins, and also ended their record of never having been beaten in nine Grand Finals!

WA prepares for Top Five Series

Jacob Kagi

Sydney FC rounded out its Pre Season friendlies against State League sides by going down 1-0 to NSW Premier League Premiers Sydney Olympic in an entertaining match at Belmore Sports Ground.

Both sides played some good football and had a number of chances but it was a 30m rocket from discarded Gold Coast United midfielder Alex Smith in the 87th minute that won the clash for the home side.

Vitezslav Lavicka recalled most of his senior players to the starting line up after the last match against Sutherland with only Karol Kisel, Terry Antonis and Joel Chianese missing from the A-League squad for the final pre season friendly match against State League opposition.

The game started at a crisp pace with both sides trying to play football on what was a bumpy pitch.

Sydney FC found the back of the net in the 6th minute when Jamie Coyne rose above the pack to head home from a Scott Jamieson cross but referee Kris Griffith Jones ruled he had fouled his opponent and the goal was disallowed.

Nick Carle once again looked dangerous for the visitors, causing problems on the edge of the Sydney Olympic box with Bruno Cazarine shooting wide on 12 minutes after he was the beneficiary of some slick work by Carle.

Sydney Olympic also had their moments with a couple of shots from outside the area going close to the Sydney FC goal, which was patrolled by Ivan Necevski.

But it was Sydney FC who had the better of the first period, with Coyne coming close in the 27th minute when he again climbed high, this time putting his header from a Jamieson free kick wide of the post.

While Sydney FC did have the better of the play it was Sydney Olympic who came closest to opening the scoring in the 37th minute when a stinging volley from Smith was tipped onto the post by Necevski.

The teams went to the break locked at 0-0 and Sydney FC coach rotated two players with Michael Beauchamp replacing Sebastian Ryall in the heart of defence and Shannon Cole coming into the right midfield role for Rhyan Grant.

Dimi Petratos also entered the match in the 54th minute, replacing Cazarine, and within a minute he made a smart run in behind the defence only to see his shot well saved by Olympic 'keeper Paul Henderson. Nathan Sherlock replaced Pascal Bosschaart three minutes later.

Sydney FC came close in the 63rd minute when some brilliant lead up work by Terry McFlynn, Jamie Coyne and Dimi Petratos down the right flank saw Mark Bridge denied by a last ditched save by Henderson.

Two minutes later McFlynn hit the post after Bridge and Carle combined on the edge of the penalty area. Carle was then replaced, making way for Juho Makela.

Cole had a grand chance to win the game in the 81st minute when an inch perfect Bridge cross found him inside the penalty area but his shot, after a good first touch, went sailing over the bar.

With just three minutes left on the clock, Olympic midfielder Smith found the back of the net with another 30m dipping shot, which gave Necesvki no chance and handed the home side a 1-0 lead.

Sydney FC will now look forward to the clash with Newcastle Jets in Cessnock next Saturday (17 September) before hosting Perth Glory at WIN Jubilee Stadium as part of fan day on Saturday 24 September.

Sydney Olympic 1 (Alex Smith 87) d Sydney FC 0
Belmore Sports Ground
Crowd: 2,500

Stirling Lions midfielder Andy Brown and Mandurah City's Michael Grigo in action at The Hyundai Stadium. Photo: PETER SIMCOX

WA Results - Final Series

Elimination Final
Sorrento 3 (Mirco 61, Love 92p, Foster 112) Western Knights 2 (Shackleton 63, Trim 111).

Qualifying Final
Perth SC 4 (Oliveira 7, 37, 47, 55) Inglewood United 2 (R Clarke 65, Geddes 69).

Finals Series

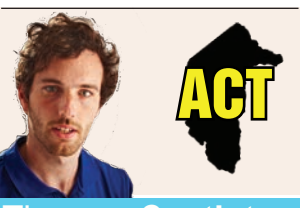
Elimination Final
Western Knights
v
Sorrento
Percy Doyle Reserve

Qualifying Final
Perth SC
v
Inglewood United

All Flags WA Premier League

	P	W	D	L	For	Ag	GD	Pts
1 Balcatta	22	17	1	4	44	23	34	52
2 Perth SC	22	13	1	8	41	33	8	40
3 Inglewood United	22	11	4	7	51	37	14	37
4 Sorrento	22	10	6	6	35	28	7	36
5 Western Knights	22	10	5	7	38	34	4	35
6 Stirling Lions	22	10	3	9	42	38	4	33
7 Bayswater City	22	8	7	7	41	40	1	31
8 Floreat Athena	22	7	5	10	35	41	-6	26
9 ECU Joondalup	22	8	2	12	27	42	-15	26
10 Armadale	22	7	3	12	36	46	-10	24
11 Mandurah City	22	5	4	13	20	33	-13	19
12 Cockburn City	22	4	3	15	30	55	-25	15

CANBERRA FC TO MEET OLYMPIC IN GRAND FINAL



Thomas Castleton

Canberra FC won through to the Rock Premier League Grand Final with a dominating 4-1 victory over rivals Belconnen United on a cool evening at McKellar Park.

The defending champions and 2011 league winners shook off their semi-final defeat to Canberra Olympic to set up an intriguing re-match with their conquerors in next weekend's Rock Premier League Grand Final. Rob Graham's team were always in command of this Preliminary Final tie from the moment that Matt Grbesa rose highest to plant a thumping header from a pin point Adam Spaleta cross past the stranded Rohan Shepherd in the Blue Devils goal in the eighth minute. It was Canberra FC's first real attempt at goal in the match and showcased their ability to make the most of any situation.

Graham, Canberra FC's Head Coach, made some changes to the starting team that were turned over by Olympic with defender Marcin Zygmunt and midfielder John Glass relegated to the bench as the visitors flooded the midfield and went with a three-man back line. Belconnen combated this approach with a fluid looking 4-4-2 with the Beaton brothers, Callum and Taylor, buzzing around in their industrious fashion and closing down the space afforded the quality of Adam Spaleta and the energetic Grbesa.

The Blue Devils gave notice that they were prepared to attack last season's treble winners when leading scorer, and Rock Premier League Golden Boot, Dustin Wells flashed a low drive towards goal that Ben Klug did well to dive, full stretch, and push round the post for a corner. Unfortunately for the Belconnen supporters the usually influential Wells was superbly marshalled by young defenders Ryan Keir and Izach Clements who, alongside the more experienced Aidan Brunskill, restricted the former Hyundai A-League player to efforts from distance.

Shepherd in the Belconnen goal was by far the busier of the two 'keepers though and did well to deny Ivan Pavlak when the speedy Canberra FC winger broke goal side of the Blue Devils defence and advanced on goal only to flick a tame right foot shot at the 'keeper which Shepherd blocked with an outstretched foot. The same player flashed a drive across goal moments later before Wells tried his luck with a chip from range in response. Canberra FC struck a killer blow on the cusp of half-time with a brilliantly taken second goal. A swift counter attack saw Paul Ivanic flick a delightful pass over the Belconnen defence and into the path of the flying Stephen Lee. Lee connected with the ball just before Shepherd and slid it under the young stopper to give his team a crucial 2-0 cushion at the break.

It was Canberra FC that started the more positive in the second half with Adam Spaleta seeing a corner header off the line by Cameron Reinhart with Shepherd beaten before the Blue evils 'keeper did magnificently to save from Ivanic when the tall striker collected a knock-down from Victor Yanes and thumped a venomous effort at goal. It was inevitable that a third goal would come and when Spaleta cut inside Elliot Zwangobani at the end of a lightning fast counter raid, seconds after Matt Valeri had seen a looped header cleared by Brunskill from under the cross bar, the Belconnen defender brought him down and left referee Luke WIthell with no option but to award a penalty. Ivanic stepped up to thrash home the resultant spot-kick and effectively send Canberra FC into the Grand Final.

Belconnen did get on the score sheet with nineteen minutes remaining when burly substitute Ryan Jones got the end of a neat flick and side-foot a composed finish past Klug, but it was a mere blip for Canberra FC who rounded out the match in style with the goal of the game. Man of the match Spaleta found himself with the ball on the edge of the area, spun and sent an audacious chip over Shepherd who could only watch in admiration, along with an appreciative crowd as the ball arced over his head and nestled into the net to send Canberra FC into the Grand Final.

Zac Maybury (Belconnen) holds off ICanberra FC's van Pavlac. Photo: NICK GUOTH

Canberra FC's Stephen Lee peels off to celebrate after scoring the second goal. Photo: NICK GUOTH

ACT Finals Series

Sunday 11th September 2011
Rock Premier League
Preliminary Final
(McKellar Park, kick off 17:00)
Belconnen United 1 (Ryan Jones 71')
Canberra FC 4 (Matt Grbesa 8', Stephen Lee 43', Paul Ivanic 62' (pen), Adam Spaleta 90+2')

Belconnen United: 1. Rohan Shepherd (gk), 2. Matt Valeri, 3. Dustin Wells, 4. Lee Pietrukowski, 5. Taylor Beaton, 6. Elliot Zwangobani, 7. Callum Beaton (17. Ryan Jones), 8. Cameron Reinhart (18. Jack Blackley), 10. Danny Macor, 12. Michael Reeve (15. David Arranz), 16. Zac Maybury

Canberra FC: 18. Ben Klug (gk), 4. Izach Clements, 6. Ryan Keir, 7. Paul Ivanic (9. Michael Spaleta), 10. Stephen Lee, 11. Ivan Pavlak, 12. Ian Graham, 16. Matt Grbesa (5. John Glass), 19. Adam Spaleta, 76. Aidan Brunskill, 99. Victor Yanes (23. Marcin Zygmunt)
Discipline:

ACT Results

Preliminary Final Results
Rock Premier League under-16
Woden Valley 3 (Thomas Zeitlhofer 51', Daniel Lopera 82', Marco Gayer 83') Canberra City 2 (Nicholas Vecchi 25', T. Vurak 43')

Rock Premier League under-18
Woden Valley 3 (Josh Gregory 32', Darcy Crosthwaite 34', Sam Ossato 82') Canberra Olympic 0

Rock Premier Pathway League
Canberra City 0 Cooma Tigers 1 (Callum Patterson)

ACT Finals Fixtures

ROCK PREMIER LEAGUE
GRAND FINAL
Canberra FC
v
Canberra Olympic
Deakin Stadium
Saturday 17th September
Kick off 17:00

NORTHCOTE CITY FC

PHOTO: DANIEL FILIS

Herculean Victory

Rd 5	2-1 Box Hill United
Rd 6	4-0 FC Bulleen Lions
Rd 7	4-1 Springvale White Eagles
Semi	2-0 Green Gully Cavaliers
Final	2-0 Melbourne Knights

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LUKE MURRAY

South Melbourne FC

FULL NAME: Luke Murray
BIRTHPLACE: Melbourne, Australia
BIRTH DATE: 27/03/95
HEIGHT: 163cm
WEIGHT: 52kg
MARRIED: Not yet
CAR: Would love a Holden Torana
NICKNAME: Luke
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Seaford United SC, Dandenong Thunder SC, South Melbourne FC
REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS: Under 15's Victorian Futsal Team, Under 13's Australasian Futsal Tour in China, Under 14's Bowen Soccer Academy Malaysian Tour.
INDIVIDUAL HONOURS: Leader Sports Star Of the Week, Nominated for Leader Sports Star Of the Year awards
TEAM HONOURS: League Champions Under 13 A's Dandenong Thunder SC
CHILDHOOD FOOTBALL HERO: Thierry Henry
FAVOURITE O/S PLAYER: Eduardo Alves da Silva
FAVOURITE HAL PLAYER: Archie Thompson
FAVOURITE FORMER SOCCEROO: Mark Viduka
FAVOURITE CURRENT SOCCEROO: Tim Cahill
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH AS A PLAYER: Under 8's when I scored 9 goals in a game
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH AS A FAN: My first ever English Premier League match. Arsenal v Wolves (2004)
MOST MEMORABLE GOAL YOU'VE SCORED: Under 14's from a corner where I full volleyed it top corner from 20 yards out
EARLIEST FOOTBALL MEMORY: My first ever soccer match
FUNNIEST MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: The ball got kicked into the referees face
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Australia's exit out of the World Cup
WORST INJURY: None
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: None so far
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: Northcote FC
SUPERSTITIONS: None
TYPICAL MATCH DAY MEAL: 5 Weetbix, 1 banana and a glass of milk
WHAT ARE YOUR STRENGTHS: Being calm on the ball and confident in my ability
WHAT ARE YOUR WEAKNESSES: I'm still growing
FAVOURITE TEAM WHEN GROWING UP: Arsenal FC
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Hockey and Table Tennis
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTSPERSON: Derrick Rose (Basketballer for Chicago Bulls)
FAVOURITE FOODS: Pasta, kebabs and fruit salad
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Adam Sandler
HOBBIES: Skating and listening to music
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Greek Islands
FAVOURITE NIGHTSPOT: none
IDEAL DATE: none
FAVOURITE TV SHOWS: Big bang Theory and X-Factor
FAVOURITE MUSIC: Rap, Hip-Hop
FAVOURITE FILM: Green Street Hooligans
LAST SOCCER SHIRT YOU BOUGHT: Arsenal FC 2010
FUNNIEST RUMOUR YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT YOURSELF: None
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: The mentality to become a better player
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Not enough officials during the game
HOW CAN WE IMPROVE THE GAME: More officials on the goal lines
ADVICE TO YOUNGSTERS: Have fun and never stop practising
FOOTBALL AMBITION: To make professional
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? : David Beckham
YOUR TIP FOR THIS YEAR'S HAL: Melbourne Victory

PHOTO: DARRYL KENNEDY

Heart stars bound for peninsula

PETER McLoughlin is a remarkable man. Admitted football tragic, painter and decorator and founder and president of Mt Eliza juniors.

He's also an ex-Melbourne Victory supporter who has forked out around $18,000 buying 500 junior memberships which will lure Melbourne Heart to Langwarrin's Lawton Park on Saturday 24 September at 3pm to take on a Peninsula Select. The day kicks off at 9am when the inaugural Melbourne Heart Tournament for juniors gets underway. That tournament features kids in the eight and nine year old, 10 and 11 years, and 12 and 13 year groupings and nine local clubs are involved: Skye United, Seaford United, Peninsula Strikers, Mornington, Casey Comets, Westernport Wanderers, Mt Eliza, Langwarrin and the aptly named Rosebud Heart.

The big game at 3pm in the afternoon will see Heart coaching supremo John van't Schip eyeballing counterpart Gus Macleod, the Peninsula Select gaffer. Heart's senior squad will be involved in this clash while Macleod has selected a squad from 10 local clubs: Langwarrin, Seaford United, Frankston Pines, Mornington, Berwick City, Casey Comets, Peninsula Strikers, Westernport Wanderers, Skye United and Baxter.

Macleod has been joking recently that none of his players will be allowed to go over the halfway line until the 80th minute but have no fears about this clash.

It will be entertaining and competitive as there are some young players in the local squad who are champing at the bit to show off their talents in front of the Heart brainstrust.

But expect quite a few prying eyes on the day as the clash affords a superb opportunity for Victorian Premier League clubs to weigh up the ability of some of the best players that the as yet untapped and often overlooked peninsula region has to offer. And don't for one minute think that Heart won't be taking this pre-season hit-out seriously.

"We monitor our players very closely and we know that practice matches work them harder than any training session we can put on," said Heart's general manager of football operations, John Didulica.

"In this game we should have the majority of possession so it gives our players a great opportunity to work on breaking down an opposition that you would expect would sit back and make things as difficult for you as possible.

"I've been to Langwarrin earlier this season. It's a great little ground with a nice surface and we're looking forward to playing there."

The financial cost of McLoughlin's brainchild has been softened by the $20 playing fee for juniors and the $10 adult entry fee for the senior game.

But every youngster playing in the Heart Tournament will receive a junior membership for the 2011/12 A-League season.

"It was my idea. I made a proposal to Heart about three months back and I'm motivated by giving the thousands of kids playing on a Saturday morning the opportunity of having a taste of what the A-League is about," said McLoughlin.

"I've been involved in grassroots football all my life. I'm a big Socceroos fan too and I went to South Africa last year to support them.

"I think the A-League is a great concept and I just reckon that we need to join a few of the dots along the way.

"I first spoke to Sue Crow (Heart's community general manager) and from there it just took off."

McLoughlin's imagination and Heart's oft-stated community conscience appear to be a perfect mix.

The A-League franchise describes itself as being "inspired by a vision for a broad-based community team, celebrating cultural diversity and sporting passion through football" and says that it "is committed to meeting the highest standards of professionalism on and off the park, while remaining faithful to the grassroots community and using its resources and coaching expertise to boost the game at a local level."

Grand claims indeed but when it comes to Heart's Melbourne rival they are claims that McLoughlin says have been found wanting in the past.

"I used to run supporters' coaches to Victory games in the first two years of the A-League. I tried to arrange a similar game down the peninsula with Victory but just let's say that I didn't get a positive response," he said.

"I went to watch Heart last season and I was really impressed by their style of play. I also was impressed with the community message they were pushing. They said they had a commitment to engage the grassroots community and we'll see more evidence of that come September 24."

So who is the man behind this gala event for football on the peninsula?

Mt Eliza juniors president Peter McLoughlin.

McLoughlin is Manchester-born. He arrived here in 1983 and started playing with Mornington as a right winger.

"Back then Mornington had a very good team of Scots with Tommy Robertson (ex-George Cross) coaching and I was quite impressed with the playing standard."

He enjoyed half a dozen seasons with Mornington before switching to Langwarrin.

"I wasn't exactly the best player in the world. I enjoyed the social side of the game and I had a lot of mates down at Langwarrin and I was really impressed by the family atmosphere down there."

His enjoyment lasted another 10 years "before the children came along" but his interest in being involved with football was renewed when his son joined Mornington juniors.

"I used to coach the under-10s at Mornington. We had a squad of around 14 and 11 or 12 of the kids came from Mt Eliza so I decided to start up a club there.

"I'll never forget our first ever match as a junior club. Our under-7s played against Langwarrin. My daughter played that day and we lost 22–0.

"That was back in 2008 and now we've got around 150 juniors starting off at under-6 level."

And no doubt a fair few of those kids will have stars in their eyes as they are given the privilege of both watching and meeting Heart's gun players on Lawton Park's big day.

"The kids' tournament will probably run to around about 1pm when Heart is scheduled to arrive," said McLoughlin.

"There will be a presidents' lunch for all the club presidents involved then the Heart players will be available to sign autographs for about 30 minutes I believe.

"The plan is for all the children involved to form a guard of honour for the senior players as they come onto the ground.

"I've even arranged for a photographer to be positioned on the roof of Langwarrin's stand to get a shot of the teams lining up with all these kids around them. I think it will be spectacular.

"The local press will be there too so I'm very, very hopeful that this will be a success and may turn out to be something that we can all build upon.

"I'm hopeful that any Heart players not taking part will be able to mingle with the fans. As much as the game is important I want the day to be a feel-good thing for all the players and spectators.

"I want people to drive away thinking what a good sport we are involved in and what a good bunch of guys the Heart guys are."

And what a hopelessly passionate football supporter Peter McLoughlin is.

It should be a great day for all concerned and if McLoughlin has his way it will be a day that football really came of age in his local area.

PENINSULA SELECT v MELBOURNE HEART

Lawton Park, Langwarrin, Saturday 24 September, 3pm.

PENINSULA: Michael Sivulja *(goalkeeper, Langwarrin)*, **Paul Seeley** *(goalkeeper, Seaford)*; **Matt Hodgson** *(defender, Frankston Pines)*, **Chris McKenna** *(defender, Mornington)*, **Ben Cullen** *(defender, Berwick City)*, **Alex Van Heerwaarden** *(defender, Langwarrin)*, **Fatih Akdogan** *(defender/midfielder, Langwarrin)*, **Ray Markley** *(defender/midfielder, Langwarrin)*, **Brendan Elmazovski** *(midfielder, Casey Comets)*, **Peter Dimcevski** *(midfielder, Frankston Pines)*, **Nathan Yole** *(midfielder, Mornington)*, **Michael Cooke** *(midfielder, Peninsula Strikers)*, **Mick Marnell** *(midfielder, Peninsula Strikers)*, **James Ashby** *(midfielder, Berwick City)*, **Daniel Ethridge** *(midfielder, Westernport Wanderers)*, **Chris Driver** *(midfielder, Langwarrin)*, **Chas de Petta** *(midfielder/striker, Skye United)*, **Rhys Wilson** *(striker, Baxter)*, **Liam Ryan** *(striker, Casey Comets)*, **Caleb Nicholes** *(striker, Langwarrin)*.

MELBOURNE HEART: *1 Clint Bolton, 2 Michael Marrone, 3 Brendan Hamill, 4 Simon Colosimo, 5 Fred, 6 Matt Thompson, 7 Rutger Worm, 8 Kristian Sarkies, 9 Maycon, 10 Wayne Srhoj, 11 Alex Terra, 13 Jonatan Germano, 14 Kamal Ibrahim, 15 David Williams, 16 Aziz Behich, 17 Jason Hoffman, 18 Curtis Good, 19 Eli Babalj, 20 Adrian Zahra, 21 Kliment Taseski, 22 Nick Kalmar, 23 Mate Dugandzic.*

Results & Ladders

Victorian State & Provisional Leagues - Round 21

Seniors — STATE NORTH WEST 2 — Reserves

Altona City 0 Banyule City 2, FC Clifton Hill 0 Whittlesea Ranges FC 1, Brunswick City 6 Moreland City 3, Werribee City 2 Altona East Phoenix 0, Williamstown 1 Geelong 2

Altona City 1 (J Gerada) Banyule City 2, FC Clifton Hill 1 Whittlesea Ranges FC 3, Brunswick City 1 Moreland City 2, Werribee City 3 Altona East Phoenix 2, Williamstown 0 Geelong 1, Westgate 0 Ballarat Red Devils 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Werribee City	21	15	5	1	39	17	47
Whittlesea Ranges FC	21	13	5	3	33	15	44
Brunswick City	21	13	3	5	52	25	39
Moreland City	21	12	2	7	58	32	38
Ballarat Red Devils	20	10	3	7	35	27	33
FC Clifton Hill	21	7	5	9	26	32	23
Altona East Phoenix	21	7	2	12	27	35	23
Altona City	21	6	3	12	24	34	21
Banyule City	21	5	6	10	22	38	21
Westgate	20	6	3	11	27	37	18
Geelong	21	6	2	13	25	51	17
Williamstown	21	4	3	14	18	43	12

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Moreland City	21	17	1	3	63	20	52
Brunswick City	21	12	3	6	47	29	39
Werribee City	21	11	6	4	42	28	39
Whittlesea Ranges FC	21	11	4	6	53	33	37
Williamstown	21	9	4	8	25	29	31
Banyule City	21	9	3	9	32	35	30
Ballarat Red Devils	21	8	6	7	34	25	29
Altona East Phoenix	21	8	2	11	31	39	26
FC Clifton Hill	21	7	4	10	32	50	25
Geelong	21	5	2	14	20	53	17
Westgate	21	4	5	12	18	30	13
Altona City	21	3	4	14	26	52	13

Seniors — STATE SOUTH EAST 2 — Reserves

Dandenong City 3 (WM Gordon 2 J Adeosun) Noble Park Utd 4, Diamond Valley Utd 1 Box Hill United 2, Heatherton Utd 0 Eastern Lions 1 (MW Nyadzayo), Knox City 1 Doncaster Rovers 2, Morwell Pegasus 1 South Springvale 2 (K Athiu S Catherine), Malvern City 0 Casey Comets 0

Dandenong City 6 Noble Park Utd 2, Diamond Valley Utd 2 Box Hill United 5, Heatherton Utd 0 Eastern Lions 13, Knox City 1 (F Likassa) Doncaster Rovers 0, Morwell Pegasus 0 South Springvale 3, Malvern City 4 Casey Comets 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Dandenong City	21	15	2	4	50	19	47
Malvern City	21	13	1	7	44	32	40
Box Hill United	21	11	6	4	34	21	39
Eastern Lions	21	10	7	4	31	17	37
Morwell Pegasus	21	9	5	7	43	27	32
South Springvale	21	9	2	10	34	40	29
Noble Park Utd	21	9	2	10	35	42	29
Casey Comets	21	7	5	9	35	23	26
Diamond Valley Utd	21	7	5	9	33	44	26
Doncaster Rovers	21	6	3	12	23	37	21
Heatherton Utd	21	5	2	14	19	48	17
Knox City	21	4	2	15	19	50	14

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Eastern Lions	21	12	6	3	46	22	42
Box Hill United	21	11	6	4	49	26	39
Knox City	21	12	1	8	61	34	37
Malvern City	21	10	5	6	43	28	35
Dandenong City	21	9	8	4	44	30	34
Doncaster Rovers	21	9	4	8	44	33	31
Casey Comets	21	9	2	10	50	36	29
South Springvale	21	9	2	10	33	44	28
Diamond Valley Utd	21	6	5	10	30	43	23
Morwell Pegasus	21	5	5	11	31	47	19
Noble Park Utd	21	7	1	13	34	72	19
Heatherton Utd	21	3	3	15	21	71	11

Seniors — STATE NORTH WEST 3 — Reserves

Avondale Heights 4 (DL Cicivelli 2 M Jancic M Principato) Hume Utd 1, Geelong Rangers 1 Keilor Park 11 (B Malaga 4 S Sacco RR Damianou 2 L Carbone 3 A El Dib), La Trobe University 2 (D Guadagno L Lidestri) Sunbury Utd 1, Maribyrnong Greens 5 Cairnlea 4, Sydenham Park 1 Whittlesea Utd 1 (E Koc), Yarraville Glory 0 Melbourne University 0

Avondale Heights 3 Hume Utd 2, Geelong Rangers 1 Keilor Park 3 (P Carbone MA Eskander 2), La Trobe University 0 Sunbury Utd 2, Maribyrnong Greens 3 Cairnlea 3, Sydenham Park 0 Whittlesea Utd 5 (C Kirikci G Yildiz K Kolege E Tokoglu 2), Yarraville Glory 1 Melbourne University 5

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Keilor Park	21	13	7	1	50	15	46
La Trobe University	21	12	3	6	32	26	39
Yarraville Glory	21	9	7	5	38	28	34
Melbourne University	21	9	6	6	30	20	33
Sunbury Utd	21	9	4	8	36	28	31
Avondale Heights	21	9	4	8	33	30	31
Whittlesea Utd	21	8	7	6	37	40	31
Sydenham Park	21	8	6	7	38	33	30
Hume Utd	21	7	5	9	28	30	26
Cairnlea	21	7	3	11	44	44	24
Maribyrnong Greens	21	4	2	15	41	65	14
Geelong Rangers	21	2	4	15	27	75	10

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sunbury Utd	21	16	4	1	69	17	52
Whittlesea Utd	21	16	3	2	89	17	51
Keilor Park	21	15	4	2	98	25	49
La Trobe University	21	12	5	4	69	34	41
Sydenham Park	21	9	3	9	47	53	30
Melbourne University	21	8	3	10	40	44	27
Cairnlea	21	7	3	11	51	71	24
Avondale Heights	21	6	3	12	34	43	21
Yarraville Glory	21	6	3	12	38	70	21
Geelong Rangers	21	5	1	15	29	64	16
Hume Utd	21	4	3	14	38	113	15
Maribyrnong Greens	21	3	3	15	44	95	12

Seniors — STATE SOUTH EAST 3 — Reserves

Mornington 2, Peninsula Strikers 1 Croydon City Arrows 3 (V Swami J White T Adams), Nunawading City FC 0 Old Scotch 0, Waverley Wanderers 4 Frankston Pines 1, Fitzroy City 1 North Caulfield 0

Doveton 1 Mornington 0, Peninsula Strikers 6 Croydon City Arrows 1 (AT Gatt), Nunawading City FC 1 Old Scotch 0, Waverley Wanderers 2 Frankston Pines 3, Fitzroy City 1 North Caulfield 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Mornington	21	16	1	4	60	30	49
Kingston City	20	14	4	2	53	15	46
Old Scotch	21	13	2	6	32	25	41
Nunawading City FC	21	9	4	8	31	30	31
Waverley Wanderers	21	9	3	9	36	29	30
Doveton	21	9	2	10	38	32	29
Fitzroy City	21	9	2	10	32	34	29
North Caulfield	21	8	4	9	38	34	28
Peninsula Strikers	21	7	4	10	34	55	25
Berwick City	20	6	3	11	25	37	21
Croydon City Arrows	21	6	2	13	34	49	20
Frankston Pines	21	1	5	15	19	62	8

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Kingston City	20	16	1	3	56	18	46
Old Scotch	21	14	2	5	50	24	44
Doveton	21	11	5	5	43	26	37
North Caulfield	21	9	4	8	55	43	31
Waverley Wanderers	21	8	7	6	52	48	30
Croydon City Arrows	21	9	2	10	54	55	29
Mornington	21	8	4	9	52	43	28
Peninsula Strikers	21	8	5	8	42	39	28
Fitzroy City	21	7	5	9	34	52	24
Berwick City	20	6	2	12	35	56	20
Nunawading City FC	21	5	4	12	37	55	18
Frankston Pines	21	3	1	17	30	81	10

Seniors — PROVI 1 NORTH WEST — Reserves

Corio 2 (V Stojanovic M Marinovic) Surf Coast 0, FC Strathmore 5 South Yarra 3, North City Lions 2 (M Hana R Schiafone) Essendon Utd 6, North Sunshine Eagles 4 Northern Falcons 0, Westvale 3 Western Eagles 2, Sporting Whittlesea FC 5 (A Diop M Disasi H Diagne S Singh Own Goal) Laverton Park 2

Corio 2 Surf Coast 1, FC Strathmore 3 South Yarra 3, North City Lions 6 (M Xerri 2 N Mantouani 4) Essendon Utd 1, North Sunshine Eagles 3 Northern Falcons 3, Westvale 0 Western Eagles 0, Sporting Whittlesea FC 4 Laverton Park 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
North Sunshine Eagles	21	14	4	3	53	28	46
Sporting Whittlesea FC	21	15	1	5	41	21	46
South Yarra	21	12	3	6	51	32	39
Corio	21	11	3	7	51	32	36
Westvale	21	7	10	4	31	23	31
Essendon Utd	21	8	2	11	38	42	26
North City Lions	21	7	5	9	30	38	26
FC Strathmore	21	6	5	10	36	43	23
Surf Coast	21	6	4	11	29	43	22
Northern Falcons	21	7	1	13	16	49	22
Western Eagles	21	6	3	12	32	34	21
Laverton Park	21	3	7	11	28	51	16

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Yarra	21	18	1	2	71	16	55
Surf Coast	21	14	3	4	46	24	45
North Sunshine Eagles	21	13	3	5	60	40	42
Sporting Whittlesea FC	21	12	3	6	62	39	39
North City Lions	21	11	3	7	63	42	36
Corio	21	9	4	8	45	34	31
Westvale	21	8	4	9	35	39	28
Laverton Park	21	8	2	11	43	62	26
FC Strathmore	21	5	3	13	41	55	18
Northern Falcons	21	4	4	13	31	86	16
Western Eagles	21	3	6	12	30	57	15
Essendon Utd	21	2	2	17	29	62	8

Seniors — PROVI 1 SOUTH EAST — Reserves

Beaumaris 0 Mooroolbark 1, Lyndale Utd 0 Springvale City 7, Monash University 1 (C McPherson) Skye Utd 1 (M Cordoma), Hampton Park United Sparrows 2 Old Camberwell Grammar 1, Old Melburnians 4 Brandon Park 0, Sandringham SC 3 Warragul Utd 2 (M Griffin P Cooper)

Beaumaris 2 Mooroolbark 2, Lyndale Utd 2 Springvale City 5, Monash University 0 Skye Utd 1 (J Roach), Hampton Park United Sparrows Football Club 4 Old Camberwell Grammar 2, Old Melburnians 3 Brandon Park 2, Sandringham SC 6 Warragul Utd 2 (R Wagner 2)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Springvale City	21	15	4	2	54	16	49
Beaumaris	21	14	2	5	53	34	44
Old Melburnians	21	11	7	3	59	27	40
Mooroolbark	21	10	4	7	47	39	34
Sandringham SC	21	11	3	7	53	37	33
Warragul Utd	21	10	3	8	41	28	33
Hampton Park United	21	8	6	7	38	40	27
Brandon Park	21	7	3	11	24	36	24
Old Camberwell Grammar	21	6	4	11	28	34	22
Monash University	21	5	6	10	30	48	21
Skye Utd	21	3	4	14	34	66	13
Lyndale Utd	21	1	4	16	23	79	7

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sandringham SC	21	16	3	2	68	24	48
Mooroolbark	21	14	3	4	70	32	45
Old Melburnians	21	13	4	4	51	19	43
Monash University	21	11	6	4	47	24	39
Warragul Utd	21	10	4	7	53	42	33
Beaumaris	21	8	7	6	44	40	31
Old Camberwell Grammar	21	6	6	9	33	40	24
Skye Utd	21	6	6	9	33	45	24
Hampton Park United	21	5	3	13	30	61	15
Brandon Park	21	3	6	12	24	57	15
Lyndale Utd	21	3	4	14	36	71	13
Springvale City	21	3	4	14	26	60	12

Seniors — PROVI 2 NORTH WEST — Reserves

Epping City 3 Bell Park 2 (I Majtara A Milenkovski), Melbourne City 4 Elwood City 4, Melbourne Tornado 0 Lalor Utd 2, Moreland Utd 1 (A Babo) Plenty Valley Lions 2 (C Nikolaidis I Ristov), West Preston 4 (P Koniaras WJ Sismanis 2 T Petidis) Hoppers Crossing 1, Northern Roosters 3 Upfield 3

Epping City 4 Bell Park 0, Melbourne City 1 Elwood City 3, Melbourne Tornado 2 Lalor Utd 4, Moreland Utd 5 Plenty Valley Lions 3, West Preston 1 Hoppers Crossing 1, Northern Roosters 2 Upfield 9

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Moreland Utd	21	12	5	4	45	22	41
West Preston	21	11	5	5	47	35	38
Lalor Utd	21	11	4	6	37	29	37
Hoppers Crossing	21	11	3	7	43	33	36
Epping City	21	11	3	7	47	37	36
Plenty Valley Lions	21	10	4	7	29	31	34
Upfield	21	11	3	7	40	27	33
Elwood City	21	7	3	11	44	42	24
Bell Park	21	6	3	12	33	35	21
Northern Roosters	21	3	10	8	29	35	19
Melbourne City	21	4	4	13	29	66	16
Melbourne Tornado	21	4	3	14	22	53	15

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Upfield	21	18	2	1	65	19	56
Elwood City	21	16	2	3	73	28	50
Hoppers Crossing	21	14	1	6	60	22	43
Epping City	21	13	1	7	55	36	40
Lalor Utd	21	12	2	7	37	29	38
Melbourne Tornado	21	8	3	10	46	46	27
Moreland Utd	21	8	2	11	28	43	26
Bell Park	21	6	7	8	26	31	25
West Preston	21	5	4	12	42	60	19
Northern Roosters	21	5	2	14	49	83	17
Plenty Valley Lions	21	4	3	14	32	57	15
Melbourne City	21	2	1	18	18	77	7

Seniors — PROVI 2 SOUTH EAST — Reserves

Casey Kings 2 Riversdale 3 (A Robertson K Crnic 2), Caulfield United Cobras SC 1 Ashburton United 3 (A Jackson MM Grogan C Nelms), Boroondara Eagles 1 (E Peyton) Uni. of Melbourne 1, Endeavour Utd 1 (D Jandu) Monbulk 2, Old Carey 3 (PJ Henson R Stanner L Udorovic) Keysborough 1, Seaford Utd 1 (A Fox) Bayside Argonauts 1

Casey Kings 4 Riversdale 1, Caulfield United Cobras SC 6 Ashburton United 1, Boroondara Eagles 3 Uni. of Melbourne 2, Endeavour Utd 1 Monbulk 2, Old Carey 3 Keysborough 3, Seaford Utd 3 Bayside Argonauts 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Monbulk	21	13	3	5	40	24	42
Riversdale	21	12	4	5	39	31	40
Endeavour Utd	21	10	4	7	43	32	34
Old Carey	21	10	2	9	38	36	32
Caulfield United Cobras	21	8	7	6	37	30	31
Keysborough	21	7	6	8	39	35	27
Bayside Argonauts	21	6	8	7	38	38	26
Ashburton United	21	6	8	7	32	37	26
Seaford Utd	21	7	5	9	36	43	26
Casey Kings	21	5	8	8	38	43	20
Boroondara Eagles	21	5	4	12	29	42	19
Uni. of Melbourne	21	4	7	10	21	39	19

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Monbulk	21	16	3	2	55	15	51
Endeavour Utd	21	13	3	5	50	20	42
Caulfield United Cobras	21	12	3	6	44	24	39
Seaford Utd	21	12	2	7	55	34	38
Uni. of Melbourne	21	12	0	9	42	32	36
Bayside Argonauts	21	10	2	9	41	32	32
Keysborough	21	8	5	8	48	43	29
Old Carey	21	8	4	9	33	36	28
Ashburton United	21	8	3	10	34	49	27
Riversdale	21	6	1	14	26	41	19
Boroondara Eagles	21	3	2	16	18	54	11
Casey Kings	21	3	2	16	29	95	8

Seniors — PROVI 3 NORTH WEST — Reserves

Darebin Utd 1 Balmoral FC 1 (H Ikanovic), Mill Park 0 Meadow Park Eagles 1 (L Rinaldi), Watsonia Heights 1 Melton Phoenix FC 0, Youth Utd 1 Brimbank Stallions 10, Brunswick Zebras 2 (J Dalla Via 2) Heidelberg Stars 1, Moreland Wolves 2 Essendon Royals 0

Darebin Utd 2 Balmoral FC 1 (A Hassan), Mill Park 4 Meadow Park Eagles 1, Watsonia Heights 2 Melton Phoenix FC 1, Youth Utd 2 Brimbank Stallions 6, Brunswick Zebras 1 Heidelberg Stars 1, Moreland Wolves 2 Essendon Royals 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Brunswick Zebras	21	17	1	3	78	26	52
Essendon Royals	21	14	3	4	71	38	45
Moreland Wolves	21	13	4	4	54	33	43
Heidelberg Stars	21	12	4	5	55	31	40
Brimbank Stallions	21	9	6	6	54	37	33
Meadow Park Eagles	21	9	3	9	33	39	30
Darebin Utd	21	8	5	8	32	40	29
Watsonia Heights	21	8	4	9	43	34	28
Balmoral FC	21	4	5	12	43	59	17
Melton Phoenix FC	21	4	4	13	20	46	16
Mill Park	21	4	1	16	21	73	13
Youth Utd	21	3	2	16	25	73	8

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Watsonia Heights	21	17	3	1	79	19	54
Brimbank Stallions	21	13	4	4	43	24	43
Heidelberg Stars	21	13	3	5	82	33	42
Melton Phoenix FC	21	12	2	7	36	30	38
Brunswick Zebras	21	11	3	7	59	27	36
Moreland Wolves	21	11	3	7	57	36	36
Essendon Royals	21	9	1	11	41	38	28
Darebin Utd	21	6	3	12	27	50	21
Youth Utd	21	6	1	14	45	75	19
Balmoral FC	21	4	5	12	32	49	17
Mill Park	21	5	0	16	18	76	15
Meadow Park Eagles	21	4	2	15	12	74	14

Seniors — PROVI 3 SOUTH EAST — Reserves

East Bentleigh 3 (C Martini 3) Collingwood City 7 (N Van Hattum G Papageorgiou I Skukan 2 D Tsitos 2 R Mcneice), Whitehorse Utd 0 Noble Park 2, White Star Dandenong 4 Baxter 0, Old Brighton Grammarians 7 Rowville Eagles 1, Middle Park FC 5 (N Mullen N Meade E Pinto M Tidd 2) Brighton 3 (S Birk C Brady 2), Eltham Redback FC 2 (R Murphy G Saladino) Old Trinity Grammarians 3

East Bentleigh 2 (I Natsioulas 2) Collingwood City 9, Whitehorse Utd 5 Noble Park 3, White Star Dandenong 1 Baxter 5 (R Thompson 4 A Lipsett), Old Brighton Grammarians 3 Rowville Eagles 2, Middle Park FC 5 Brighton 0, Eltham Redback FC 5 Old Trinity Grammarians 5

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Middle Park FC	21	18	1	2	87	18	55
Collingwood City	21	18	0	3	59	20	54
Whitehorse Utd	21	12	3	6	43	28	39
Old Brighton Grammarians	21	12	2	7	59	37	38
Noble Park	21	10	2	9	45	55	32
Rowville Eagles	21	9	2	10	39	47	29
Baxter	21	9	1	11	42	43	28
Brighton	21	8	3	10	44	44	27
White Star Dandenong	21	8	1	12	35	60	25
Old Trinity Grammarians	21	7	2	12	39	54	23
Eltham Redback FC	21	4	2	15	29	62	14
East Bentleigh	21	1	1	19	28	81	4

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Old Brighton Grammarians	21	16	4	1	56	22	52
Collingwood City	21	15	5	1	78	21	50
Middle Park FC	21	15	4	2	69	24	49
Baxter	21	12	4	5	67	41	40
Whitehorse Utd	21	10	2	9	52	48	32
Old Trinity Grammarians	21	9	2	10	41	43	29
Brighton	21	8	3	10	34	55	27
Rowville Eagles	21	7	2	12	35	56	23
Eltham Redback FC	21	5	4	12	30	49	19
White Star Dandenong	21	5	0	16	44	70	15
East Bentleigh	21	2	6	13	35	72	12
Noble Park	21	3	2	16	31	71	11

FOOTBALL FEDERATION VICTORIA

Goal! Weekly appreciates the support and financial assistance of FFV

State & Provi Round 22 Fixtures

All matches to be played on Saturday 17th Sept with 3pm KO unless otherwise stated.

State NW 2
Whittlesea Ranges FC v Moreland City
Partridge Reserve
Altona East Phoenix v FC Clifton Hill
Paisley Park Soccer Complex
Ballarat Red Devils v Altona City
Trekardo Park
Banyule City v Williamstown
Yallambie Park Res
Brunswick City v Westgate
Dunstan Reserve
Geelong v Werribee City
Stead Park Reserve

State SE 2
Casey Comets v Knox City
Comets Stadium
Eastern Lions v Diamond Valley Utd
Gardiners Creek Res
Doncaster Rovers v Morwell Pegasus
Anderson Park
Noble Park Utd v Heatherton Utd
Parkfield Reserve
South Springvale v Dandenong City
Warner Reserve
Box Hill United v Malvern City
Wembley Park

State NW 3
Cairnlea v Sydenham Park
Cairnlea Park
Hume Utd v Geelong Rangers
Laura Douglas Reserve
Keilor Park v La Trobe University
Keilor Park Reserve
Sunbury Utd v Yarraville Glory
Langama Park
Whittlesea Utd v Avondale Heights
Thomas Street Rec
Melbourne University v Maribyrnong Greens
DISC

State SE 3
Frankston Pines v Doveton
Monterey Reserve
Berwick City v Waverley Wanderers
Jack Thomas Reserve
Croydon City Arrows v Nunawading City FC
Dorset Recreational Res
Old Scotch v Fitzroy City
Gardiners Creek Res
Mornington v Peninsula Strikers
Dallas Brooks Park
North Caulfield v Kingston City
Caulfield Park Sun 18 Sep 11 3:00PM

Provi NW 1
Laverton Park v Corio
Laverton Park Reserve
Northern Falcons v FC Strathmore
Hayes Park
South Yarra v Sporting Whittlesea FC
Fawkner Park (Northern Pavillion)
Western Eagles v North Sunshine Eagles
Polish Sports & Rec
Essendon Utd v Westvale
Aberfeldie Park
Surf Coast v North City Lions
Quay Reserve

Provi SE 1
Warragul Utd v Old Camberwell Grammar
Baxter Park (Warragul)
Brandon Park v Lyndale Utd
Freeway Reserve
Skye Utd v Sandringham SC
Skye Recreational Res
Beaumaris v Hampton Park United Sparrows
Beaumaris Reserve
Mooroolbark v Old Melburnians
Esther Park Reserve
Springvale City v Monash University
Ross Reserve

Provi NW 2
Bell Park v West Preston
Bell Park Sports Club
Elwood City v Epping City
Elwood Park
Hoppers Crossing v Melbourne Tornado
Grange Reserve
Lalor Utd v Northern Roosters
HR Uren Reserve
Plenty Valley Lions v Melbourne City
Sycamore Reserve
Upfield v Moreland Utd
Gibb Reserve

Provi SE 2
Casey Kings v Endeavour Utd
Betula Park
Old Carey v Caulfield United Cobras SC
Carey Sports Complex
Keysborough v Seaford Utd
Coomoora Reserve
Monbulk v Ashburton United
Monbulk Recreational Res
Uni. of Melbourne v Riversdale
Princes Park Oval #2
Bayside Argonauts v Boroondara Eagles
Shipston Reserve

Provi NW 3
Balmoral FC v Moreland Wolves
Arthur Beachley Res
Brimbank Stallions v Darebin Utd
Club Italia Sporting Club
Essendon Royals v Brunswick Zebras
Reggio Calabria Club
Heidelberg Stars v Watsonia Heights
Cartledge Reserve
Meadow Park Eagles v Youth Utd
Gladstone Park Res
Melton Phoenix FC v Mill Park
MacPhersons Park

Provi SE 3
Baxter v East Bentleigh
Baxter Park
Collingwood City v Middle Park FC
Kevin Bartlett Res
Noble Park v White Star Dandenong
Norman Luth Reserve
Old Trinity Gramm v Old Brighton Gramm
Trinity Sports Ground
Rowville Eagles v Whitehorse Utd
Park Ridge Reserve
Brighton v Eltham Redbacks FC
Dendy Park

Photographer JOHN PUNSHON brings you the pick of the pics from promotion chasing Monbulk's 2-1 win over Endeavour United in Provi SE 2.

goal! Weekly

Last round to decide champs and relegation spots

By Michal Skrodsky

Well folks here we are, one week left with a hell of a lot to play for. This week rather than going through last week's results I will preview the upcoming week and crunch the numbers for you so you will know exactly where your team stands coming into the last round of the season.

Monbulk players celebrate what turned out to be the winning goal in their 2-1 win over Endeavour United. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

There were no beg pardons in this clash between Endeavour United defender Jason Castel (Left) and Monbulk's Jacco KerstensPhoto: JOHN PUNSHON

State 2 NW

Promotion: Werribee City are in the box seat for the Championship and promotion. They sit 3 points clear of Whittlesea Ranges and and have a better goal difference of 4. This means for Werribee to clinch the title they just need a draw at Geelong. Whittlesea need to defeat Moreland City and hope Werribee lose, furthermore goal differences need to be cancelled out for Whittlesea to advance. The runner-up prize for 2nd, which is a play-off spot, is alread certain as 3rd placed Brunswick City is 5 points off Whittlesea.

Relegation: Williamstown have already confirmed their relegation. The big battle for survival is between Westgate and Geelong. Westgate sit 1 point clear of Geelong and can ensure their survival if they win their game on Monday against Ballrat. Geelong will be praying that Ballarat at least hold Westgate to a draw and that Brunswick City will beat them in the last round. Geelong though will face the toughest opponent on the last day of the season, Werribee City who are playing for the title.

State 2 SE

Promotion: Dandenong City wrapped up promotion a while back as with the championship. The battle for the play-off spot is between Malvern City on 40 points and Box Hill United on 39, Eastern Lions are on 37 points but are out of the race as Malvern City host Box Hill next week in what is one of the most anticipated games of the upcoming round. The equation is pretty simple, Malvern needs a draw or a win, for Box Hill only a win will do.

Relegation: Heatherton United and Knox City are already relegated going into the last day of the season.

State 3 NW

Promotion: Everything has already been decided last week, Keilor Park are champions and La Trobe University will join them in State 2 next season.

Relegation: Likewise with promotion, the final two spots of the table have been decided: Geelong Rangers are bottom and Maribyrnong Greens second last. This means the last round of season teams can let their hair down and enjoy a relaxed game of football as everything has already been set in stone for season 2011.

State 3 SE

Promotion: Mornington's and Kingston City's stellar seasons have been rewarded with both teams gaining promotion, but all is still to play for! The championship is up for grabs, Mornington has a 3 point lead on Kingston but Kingston has a game in hand. Kingston host Berwick City on Monday and Berwick is involved in the relegation fight so this match won't be easy. On the last day of the season Kingston travel to the land of kosher to face North Caulfield while Mornington host Peninsula Strikers.

Relegation: Frankston Pines have confirmed their relegation a few weeks back. Berwick City sits 1 point clear of Croydon City but Berwick has a game in hand. If Berwick can do the unthinkable and knock off Kingston on Monday then the season is over for Croydon City. If Kingston get up then all eyes turn to these two games: Berwick vs Waverley Wanderers and Croydon City vs Nunawading.

Provisional 1 NW

Promotion: Sporting Whittlesea and North Sunshine Eagles have confimed promotion, both are one 46 points with North Sunhsine on top with superior goal difference. North Sunshine have the tough task of travelling to the Western Eagles who will be battling for survival and Sporting Whittlesea travel to 3rd placed South Yarra.

Relegation: This is by far one of the tighest battle's going into the last day of the season. Laverton Park are relegated but the fight to avoid 2nd last place is very close. Western Eagles currently occupy 11th position on 21 points with two team Surf Coast and Northern Falcons sitting on 22 points. Strathmore is also not guaranteed safety on 23 points. Western Eagles face the toughest task, needing a win against North Sunshine who are fighting for the title. A draw may be enough to save the Eagles as their goal diffence is much greater than Surf Coast's and Northern Falcons' meaning if one of them lose and the Eagles draw the Eagles will be safe. Surf Coast host North City Lions while Northern Falcons host fellow relegation battler Strathmore. Strathmore seem to be in the safest position, even if they lose they need 2 other results to go against their favour for them to be relegated.

Provisional 1 SE

Promotion: Another league here with everything certain going into the last day. The champions are Springvale City and 2nd place is Beaumaris, congratulations to both.

Relegation: Lyndale United will finish last and Skye United with join them in Provisional 2 next season as they are guarenteed 11th.

Provisional 2 NW

Promotion: The closest battle for promotion is right here in Provi 2 NW. One team has already been promoted but 4 teams are still in the hunt for that all important 2nd place. Moreland United are guarenteed Promotion on 41 points and pretty much the championship. The only team who can take the championship away from Moreland is West Preston who are on 38 points, although this would require a near miracle as Moreland's goal difference is 11 goals superior to West Preston's. West Preston will be keen just to fend off the chasing pack of Lalor United (37 points), Epping City (36 points) and Hoppers Crossing (36 points). The up coming game of importannce are as follows: Moreland United travel to Upfield, West Preston travel to Bell Park, Lalor United host the Northern Roosters, Epping City travel to Elwood City and Hoppers Crossing travel to already relegation Melbourne Tornado. One can imagine the mass of phone calls that will go around the grounds to keep up to date with what's going on elsewhere.

Relegation: Melbourne Tornado have been relegated and Melbourne City are all but relegated. Melbourne City are only 3 points off 10th placed Northern Roosters, but there is a goal-difference difference of 31 goals in the Roosters' favour.

Provisional 2 SE

Promotion: Monbulk and Riversdale are both promoted, but only one can be champion! Monbulk has a 2 point lead over Riversdale and superior goal-difference of 8 goals. Monbulk host Ashburton United while Riversdale face a tough task at University of Melbourne who are fighting for survival.

Relegation: Relegation is a bit more complicated. Casey Kings are in 10th on 20 points and Boroondara Eagles and Uni of Melbourne are on 19 points. Uni of Melbourne face the toughest task, when the take on Riversdale who are fighting for the championship. Boroondara travel to the Bayside Argonauts and Casey Kings host Endeavour United. All is not lost for these three clubs and they will go tooth and nail for a win this Saturday.

Provisional 3 NW

Promotion: Brunswick Zebras are promoted like the wind and have the championship to boot. Second place will be a battle between Essedon Royals (45 points) and Moreland Wolves (43 points). Essendon Royals host the champions, Brunswick Zebras and will be hoping the Zebras are on a championship hangover. Moreland Wolves travel to Balmoral. A draw will probably be enough of Essendon as they have a far great goal difference.

Relegation: The first thing I should mention is that in Provisional 3 a team can only be relegated if a suitable team from the Metro Leagues can be found, meaning the Metro League team must fulfill a certain criteria set out by the FFV. In saying that, only the bottom 2 team in Provi 3 can drop, but other teams can withdraw as well. Youth United will finish bottom while Mill Park will finish 2nd bottom, so a nervous few months await Youth United and Mill Park.

Provisional 3 SE

Promotion: Middle Park and Collingwood City have been virtually promoted teams since about rund 15! Now we finally get to see them square off for the title! Middle Park has the advantage with a 1 point lead over Collingwood heading into the match but the match will be played out on Collingwood's home patch. This is undoubtedly the most exciting match of the week across the whole of Victoria.

Relegation: As mentioned above, a team can only be relegated if they finish in the bottom 2 and a suitable replacement can be found from the Metro Leagues. East Bentleigh have finished last and have had a horrid season, and Eltham Redbacks have finished 2nd last and will face a nervous wait to see if their Provisional League status remains in 2012.

Well folks, what can I say. It's been a heck of season, and we've come down to the final weekend. This is you last chance to see you team play for the last time, so wether or not your team is playing for promotion, battling relegation or nothing get down and watch your boys for one last time!!!

CRUNCHALOR!

Geordie Scott (Monbulk) times his tackle to perfection to deny Vinnie Bontemp (Endeavour United) a scoring chance. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

Both Endeavour United's Kurt Napoleon (left) and Mobulk's John Kennedy are off balance after their midfield clash. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

Alvaro Rodriguez's

Planet Football No.132 Venezuela

NAME: Venezuela
CAPITAL: Caracas
POPULATION: (2011 census) 23,054,985
CONFEDERATION: CONMEBOL
FIFA WORLD RANKING: 44th

WHO ARE YA?
Situated on the northern coast of South America, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has endured a chaotic and bloody history; its initial independence from Spain in 1811 and a later uprising in 1813 were brutally put down by the Spanish colonial forces. It was during this struggle for independence that 'The Great Liberators' Francisco de Miranda and later Simón Bolívar came to prominence, becoming symbols of revolution throughout the rest of Latin America. Despite cementing her sovereignty as a republic in 1830, Venezuela then spent most of the next 130 years at the whim of dictatorial tyrants gleefully abusing the office of President. Romulo Betancourt assumed the presidency in 1959, ushering in a new era of democracy that only ground to a halt with current socialist leader Hugo Chavez gaining the presidency in 1999.

SO WHAT YOU DONE?
Venezuela has the unique distinction of being the only South American CONMEBOL member where football is traditionally not the No.1 sport – that honour going to baseball (and some might also say producing Miss Universe winners); unsurprisingly it is the last remaining South American nation to have never qualified for the World Cup. Indeed, prior to the Noughties, Venezuela had a decidedly-abysmal record in WC qualifying. It is only in the past decade that the game's popularity in the country – as well as the national team's standard – has increased to the point of a national priority, as evidenced by hosting the 2007 Copa America. Of course their recent semi-final placing at this year's Copa is their highest-ever finish and the biggest achievement in the country's football history to date.

BIG CLUBS
In the past Venezuelan clubs often had ties to migrant communities due to lack of broadbased support, such as 'Italia' and 'Portuguesa'. The country's domestic powerhouses are Deportivo Tachira and Caracas FC, who between them have won 18 league titles and reached the quarter-finals of the Libertadores Cup in recent years.

Hugo cheers the Vinotintos' quarter-final win over Chile!

REP YOUR COLORS
Nicknamed the Vinotinto (loosely meaning 'wine-tinted' or 'wine-dyed'), the Venezuelan NT's all-burgundy strip is one of the most distinctive in world football. The away is an all-white number with burgundy trims, the team sometimes alternating between burgundy and white shorts depending on kit clashes with an opponent.

MATCHWINNERS
Even in Venezuelan football's bad-old days, there were still good players the country called its own such as goalkeeper Rafael Dudamel, and striker Giovanni Savarese who enjoyed a career in the American MLS as well as a loan stint at Swansea City (11 goals in 31 appearances) – he now serves as a youth technical director for the recently-resurrected New York Cosmos.

Of the current crop, Borussia Monchengladbach attacking-mid Juan Arango would be familiar to Aussie fans for scoring the extra-time equaliser against the Socceroos in their 2004 friendly (memorable also for being Nick Carle's Socceroos debut as well as the last match in which Adidas served as Australia's kit-maker). Midfielder Yohandry Orozco also plies his trade in the Bundesliga (for Wolfsburg) and striker Giancarlo Maldonado is a cult figure at Mexico's Atlante despite a disappointing loan spell at Xerez in the 2009/10 Spanish Primera Liga season. Shaggy-haired defender Oswaldo Vizcarrondo meanwhile plies his trade for Argentina's Club Olimpo.

SO WHAT NOW?
With the Vinotinto now more than ever expected to break their WC qualifying duck following their valiant showing at this year's Copa America, time will tell if they can do just that, although friendly losses this year to Spain, El Salvador, Honduras and Argentina serve as a sobering reminder of the squad's tetchy form. If they are successful however, it should be the final step in cementing the world game as an indelible part of the Venezuelan sporting landscape. Vamos Vinotinto!

HOT: Northcote City and the Melbourne Knights upset the applecart for those who predicted a VPL GF replay for the Mirabella Cup Final...the whole concept of a cup comp in our domestic football scene, be it state or national level, has been the real winner for me. Hopefully the FFA allow Victory and Heart to compete in the Mirabella from now on whilst getting the long-awaited national cup up and running...not only domestic football but domestic sport in this country, period, will be all the richer for it.

NOT: After the legwork of bringing home Socceroo veterans Harry and Emmo to the A-League has been done, now apparently comes the real dilemma of rescheduling Australia's friendly against Malaysia so as to allow our prodigal stars to play in the blockbuster between Victory and Sydney. I for one hope the FFA don't complicate what in my eyes is a fairly simple matter - a meaningless friendly against an Asian minnow isn't worth depriving the Australian public of what is bound to be one of the biggest regular-season clashes in domestic football history!

WAG OF THE WEEK

Sthefany Brito Age: 24
Scored with Alex Pato (AC Milan)

Couch Potato Dept.

* ALL TIMES ARE AEST

SBS

SBS ONE
Monday September 12th
04:30 PM Futbol Mundial
11:30 PM The World Game

Wednesday September 14th
04:30 AM UEFA Champions League - Matchday 1 Live game.
06:45 AM UEFA Champions League - Matchday 1 Delayed game.

Thursday September 15th
04:30 AM UEFA Champions League - Matchday 1 Live game.
06:45 AM UEFA Champions League - Matchday 1 Delayed game
11:10 PM UEFA Champions League Hour

Friday September 16th
4:45 am UEFA Europa League - Matchday 1 Live game.
7:00 am UEFA Europa League - Matchday 1 Delayed game

31 tv now!

The Futbol Town Show
Every Tuesday 7pm

Extra Time Magazine Show
Every Tuesday 7.30pm

SMFC TV
Channel 31
Every Wed 7pm

The Green Gully Football Show
Every Saturday 10.30am

SBS TWO
Monday September 12th
09:30 PM The World Game

Wednesday September 14th
09:30 PM UEFA Champions League - Matchday 1 replay.

Thursday September 15th
08:30 PM UEFA Champions League Hour

Saturday September 17th
08:30 PM UEFA Europa League Highlights

SETANTA SPORTS

Monday 12-Sep
Primera Division Rd 6 Boca Juniors v San Juan 7:05am LIVE
Ligue 1 Rd 5 Montpellier v Nice 9:15am 1st Airing
Thursday 15-Sep
Copa Sudamericana 2nd Stage 2nd Leg Universitario v Deportivo Anzoátegui 8:10am LIVE

Saturday 17-Sep
Bundesliga Rd 6 Freiburg v Stuttgart 4:25am LIVE
Primera Division Rd 7 TBC LIVE
Scottish Premier League Rd 8 Dunfermline v Hibernian 9:25pm LIVE

Sunday 18-Sep
Ligue 1 Rd 6 Lorient v St Etienne 2:55am LIVE
Ligue 1 Rd 6 Lille v Sochaux 4:55am LIVE
J-League Rd 26 Vissel Kobe v Kashiwa Reysol 10:30am 1st Airing
Bundesliga Rd 6 Kaiserslautern v Mainz 5:30pm 1st Airing
Scottish Premier League Rd 8 Rangers v Celtic 9:25pm LIVE

Monday 19-Sep
Bundesliga Rd 6 Schalke v Bayern Munich 2:45am 1st Airing
Ligue 1 Rd 6 Lyon v Marseille 4:55am LIVE
Primera Division Rd 7 TBC LIVE
Bundesliga Rd 6 Hannover v Dortmund 8:45am 1st Airing
Eredivisie Rd 6 PSV v Ajax 10:30am 1st Airing
Ligue 1 Rd 6 Evian v PSG 4:00pm 1st Airing

Tuesday 20-Sep
Primera Division Rd 8 TBC LIVE

one

Tuesday 13th September
03:00 am Arsenal TV Arsenal V Swansea
06:00 am Serie A

Wednesday 14th September
02:30 am Liverpool TV Liverpool V Stoke City
05:30 am FA Cup Clasics Newcastle V Birmingham City 3rd Round Replay 06/07
06:00 am Serie A
08:00 am The Serie A Highlights Show

Thursday 15th September
02:30 am Bundesliga Matchday 6 - Borussia Dortmund V Hertha B.S.C
04:30 am Bundesliga Weekly Highlights Matchday 6
05:30 am FA Cup Clasics Tottenham Hotspur V Manchester City 4th Round Replay 2004

Saturday 17th September
09:00 am Bundesliga Weekly Highlights (Rpt) Matchday 6

Sunday 18th September
02:30 am Arsenal TV
05:30 am FA Cup Clasics G Southampton V Manchester United 6th Round 04/05

FOX SPORTS

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE
ALL GAMES LIVE

Tue Sep 13	**QPR v Newcastle**	4.53 am
Sat Sep 17	**Blackburn v Arsenal**	9.38 pm
Sat Sep 17	**Aston Villa v Newcastle**	11.53 pm
Sat Sep 17	**Bolton v Norwich** *Viewers Choice*	11.53 pm
Sat Sep 17	**Everton v Wigan** *Viewers Choice*	11.53 pm
Sat Sep 17	**Swansea v West Brom** *Viewers Choice*	11.53 pm
Sat Sep 17	**Wolves v QPR** *Viewers Choice*	11.53 pm
Sun Sep 18	**Sunderland v Stoke** *Viewers Choice*	9.53 pm
Sun Sep 18	**Tottenham v Liverpool**	10.23 pm
Sun Sep 18	**Fulham v ManCity** *Viewers Choice*	11.53 pm
Mon Sep 19	**Man Utd v Chelsea**	12.53 am

FOOTBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP
Tue Sep 20 FLC: **Ipswich v Coventry** 4.30 am

CARLING CUP
Round 3
Wed Sep 21 **Leeds v Manchester Utd** 4.30 am
Thu Sep 22 **Brighton v Liverpool** 4.30 am

SAXON SPORTS FRANKSTON
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SL1 spots to be decided on final day

Mem Suleyman

Chris Greechan shines as Stars humiliate Bullen

Southern Stars striker Chris Greechan absolutely tore Bullen apart as his four goals was the shining light for the Stars at Kingston Health Soccer Complex on the weekend. Greechan was incredible all day as he single handily out played the Bullen defence.

Greechan had his hat trick before halftime as it was raining goals for the home team.

Early in the second half Bullen keeper Patrick Ndongo was sent off after his tackle on Stars striker Chris Greechan as a result Alan Carney missed the penalty, fine save from Bullen reserve keeper Christopher Ailakis.

It was Mark Leech who grabbed the fourth just after halftime for Stars and Greechan put the icing on the cake just after 70 minutes scoring his 10th goal of the season.

Stars missed many more opportunities and would be absolutely kicking themselves as goal difference is clearly going to matter on the last day as they travel to Langwarrin who only recently snatched a draw of the Stars and are desperate not to fall in the third last spot which would ensure a play off to stay SL1 next year.

Stars know that three points and a bag of goals may be the only way they will be promoted as the stubbornness of Port Melbourne and Whittlesea continue to deny Stars their ultimate dream.

Zebras maintain promotion push

Sunshine came to Epping Stadium looking to play counter-attacking football minus hero Kevin Muscat. Whittlesea had all to play for in their final home game edger to edge closer to promotion.

Just after halftime Stuart Nicholson scored a spectacular volley to spilt the game wide open as it appeared Sunshine were hoping for the season to come to a close.

Nicholson cut in from the byline to score his second and send the home fans wild.

Substitute Sayeed Hossaini scored the third and final goal to put the icing on the cake for Whittlesea. The 3-0 victory would prove vital; the Zebras go into the last round hot favorites to be promoted as they have superior goal difference and travel to CB Smith Reserve to face a relegated Fawkner. Having said that the Zebras and Blues were one club only a few years ago and if Fawkner have anything to play for then it will be this fierce rivalry; no doubt they will be looking to deny their fellow patriots Whittlesea.

As for Sunshine their pride will be at stake this Saturday against the relegated Preston as they join Langwarrin, Bullen and Western Suburbs in the relegation dog fight on the final day.

Port to sweat it out for another week

It takes a bit to stop Port Melbourne's Sam Arico and Preston's Kliment Dimitrieski has had to go flat out to do it. Robbie Bazzano is on hand to mop up. PHOTO: JOHN PUNSHON

Preston's Igor Kolevski stops Port Melbourne's Daryl Roach PHOTO: JOHN PUNSHON

Port Melbourne continued their winning ways against the last place Bulleen Lions at CT Connor Reserve.

The game as expected was dominated by the Sharks who piled on the pressure all day knowing full well all the goals would matter on the final day.

The goals came but maybe not enough as the Sharks go into the last game three points clear of Southern Stars and Whittlesea but a loss could prove heartbreak. Southern Stars and Whittlesea have a better goal difference a victory for those teams and a lose to Port could see the unbelievable situation of Southern Stars and Whittlesea promoted.

Pascoe Vale officials have assured Goal! Weekly that when they travel to SS Anderson Reserve next week they will be looking to deny Port Melbourne promotion and have confirmed that they will be welcoming back star midfielder Liam Flynn from suspension.

Suburbs grab vital win too send Fawkner packing

Jason Corbett scored a nice header too keep Western Suburbs in SL1 for at least another week.

New coach Lenney Catalano would have been impressed with what he seen as the Suburbs came out all guns blazing. Western Suburbs put in a decent performance in front of their home crowd.

This lose was a huge disappointment for one-time VPL high flyers Fawkner as their loyal home fans were clearly disgusted with their teams performance as they were sent packaging from SL1.

Western Suburbs now travel to rivals Altona Magic praying for a victory which would see them survive SL1 and away from the dangerous third last spot which could see them relegated with a loss in the play-off.

Warriors too strong for young Magic

The home side were really hungry knowing that a win would go a long way from saving the club from relegation. With nothing to play for Altona Magic introduced youngsters Justin Nikolovski, Michael Silver and Steven Dimecevski and were minus Kole Delev and Rini Muriqi.

A first half goal to Ray Kural was enough to take the home team too the break a goal up.

Shortly after half time it was 17-year-old Steven Dimecevski who scored for Altona on a sweet counter attack. The youngster took the ball from the byline set up Koce Delev who's shot came off the Warriors defence but was put away from Dimecevski.

Michael Anderson became the hero with two minutes to play as he buried home the all import winner, that goal saved the Warriors a relegation dog fight on the last day.

All square at Hosken reserve

Langwarrin went into this game five games unbeaten. With all to play for you would have thought Langwarrin could have run away with this game. It wasn't to be as Pascoe Vale denied the battling Langwarrin the all-important three points.

Joseph Youssef scored the first two goals of the game to put Pascoe Vale 2-0 up at halftime.

Just after halftime Caleb Nicholas cut that lead smashing home a penalty for Langwarrin. That goal was answered soon after as Marco Santelli further increased the home sides lead with an intelligent finish.

The battling Langwarrin would again came from behind to snatch some points first it was goal scoring machine Caleb Nicholas and then Simon Mur scoring 20 minutes from time.

Pascoe Vale will remain the only team representing the City of Moreland next year no doubt leaving a smile on the face of the great people of the northern suburbs.

Langwarrin will host Southern Stars knowing full well that a loss could leave them third last and in a play off situation that could see them eventually relegated.

SL1 RESULTS

North Geelong Warriors 2
Altona Magic 1

Pascoe Vale 3 Langwarrin 3

Southern Stars 5
FC Bulleen Lions 0

Whittlesea Zebras 3
Sunshine George Cross 0

Preston Lions 0
Port Melbourne 3

Western Suburbs 1
Fawkner Blues 0

Rd 21: North Geelong Warriors 1 Altona Magic 2 (M Temelkovski 2), Pascoe Vale 4 Langwarrin 0, Southern Stars 1 FC Bulleen Lions 4, Western Suburbs 4 Fawkner Blues 0, Whittlesea Zebras 4 Sunshine George Cross 1, Preston Lions 2 Port Melbourne 6

SL1 LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Port Melbourne	21	13	5	3	32	17	44
Whittlesea Z	21	12	5	4	41	22	41
Southern Stars	21	12	5	4	40	23	41
Pascoe Vale	21	9	3	9	38	28	30
Altona Magic	21	9	5	7	33	29	29
North Geelong	21	9	2	10	30	34	29
Western Subs	21	8	2	11	24	38	26
Langwarrin	21	6	7	8	31	35	25
Bulleen Lions	21	7	4	10	24	29	25
Sun George X	21	7	4	10	26	32	25
Fawkner Blues	21	6	3	12	20	24	21
Preston Lions	21	4	3	14	23	51	9

SL1 Final Round

Altona Magic v Western Suburbs
Paisley Park
Sat 17 Sep 11 3:00PM

Fawkner Blues v Whittlesea Zebras
CB Smith Reserve
Sat 17 Sep 11 3:00PM

Sunshine George Cross v Preston Lions
Chaplin Reserve
Sat 17 Sep 11 3:00PM

FC Bulleen Lions v N Geelong Warriors
Veneto Social Club
Sat 17 Sep 11 3:00PM

Port Melbourne v Pascoe Vale
SS Anderson Reserve
Sat 17 Sep 11 3:00PM

Langwarrin v Southern Stars
Lawton Park Reserve
Sat 17 Sep 11 3:00PM

SL1 U21 LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulleen Lions	21	15	2	4	72	21	47
Pascoe Vale	21	13	1	7	49	37	40
Southern Stars	21	12	2	7	52	41	38
Fawkner Blues	21	11	5	5	43	32	38
Western Subs	21	11	2	8	41	44	35
Whittlesea Z	21	10	3	8	41	35	33
North Geelong	20	9	3	8	34	25	30
Port Melbourne	21	6	5	10	32	42	23
Langwarrin	21	7	2	12	29	61	23
Sun George X	21	6	2	13	37	56	20
Altona Magic	21	6	3	12	35	43	18
Preston Lions	20	3	2	15	28	56	11

goal! Weekly

It's No. 13 for the odd couple

By MICK O'BRIEN

THERE have been some unique partnerships in the world of sport over generations but it is all the more fascinating when it is on your own doorstep as is the case of Langwarrin's Gus Macleod and Neil Collyer in Victoria's State League First Division.

One has a Graduate Diploma in Sports Psychology and is CEO of a multi-million dollar business while the other has a Degree in hard knocks from the Glasgow Shipyards, was a professional player in the old Scottish First Division and is now regarded as one of Victoria's coaching elite.

They are Langwarrin's "Odd Couple" and it's not hard to work out which one is Felix Unger and which is Oscar Madison. On gameday "Oscar" can be seen lounging close to the Langwarrin bench with a trademark cigar in hand while "Felix" prefers the more traditional confines of the technical area.

Yet there is a chemistry that has kept them the best of friends for more than 20 years and the closest of allies. Who says opposites don't attract?

They have been together for 13 seasons and carried Langwarrin from the depths of the Fourth Division and beyond, where they languished for 27 years, to the First Division where the club has remained for the past six seasons despite dangling on the end of a financial shoestring.

There wouldn't be too many coaching combinations that could brag of continuously being together for all those years and not having a single bad word said between them.

"It's quite simple. Gus as the senior coach is absolutely brilliant at what he does. His knowledge of the game is remarkable and his enthusiasm for the game never waivers," said Collyer, the Felix Unger of this remarkable equation.

While Macleod has remained as Langy senior coach he has relied upon a dedicated and trusted band of cohorts in Collyer, Robert Mathieson, Dave Robson, Trevor McClenaghan and as of this year Jamie Skelly to support him in his ventures up the leagues. He also had Jim Morrison (now coaching at Baxter) as an assistant for a season.

However, it has been Collyer and Robson that have been constant in one support position or another over the entire Macleod era at Langwarrin.

"Over the years Gus has been surrounded by the same people. His loyalty to them is echoed in their support for him and as long as he wants them they'll continue to do whatever is asked of them," said Collyer.

"I would genuinely love to see Gus in charge of a club that has the financial backing to let him spend a few dollars. This in no way reflects on Langwarrin. They have been tremendously loyal to the coaching staff and that loyalty has been reciprocated in equal measures. However, they would have to admit that attracting players can be difficult due to the location and the limited playing budget.

"What Gus has done so far has been nothing short of remarkable. He is a man of great conviction and his reputation precedes him wherever he goes. It seems like everybody knows Gus no matter what level of football in Victoria."

While Collyer has played at a reasonable standard locally (Croatia, Doveton, North Dandenong) it is Macleod that has the pedigree from a playing perspective having played against Rangers and Celtic and as a goalscorer of note with clubs such as Albion Rovers (47 appearances, 11 as sub, 27 goals) and St Mirren in the old Scottish First Division. He also had spells with Pollok, Hamilton Accies and Berwick Rangers.

Legendary Green Gully coach Bobby McLachlan brought Macleod to Melbourne for the 1981 season to great effect and with the no-nonsense striker leading the line Gully went on to win three consecutive State League championships.

And when McLachlan was asked to do a rescue mission at Footscray JUST he didn't waste time in getting Macleod to join him.

"I know a lot of players that brightened up the dressing room once they left but Gus was one of those that brightened up the place as soon as he walked in," said McLachlan.

"He was very, very underestimated for his ability to bring other players into the game, the way he could hold the ball up and lay it off. People tend to remember him for his goals but there was a lot more to his game than that.

"As a coach he is super enthusiastic and to be honest I'd have thought that he would have lost his passion for coaching years ago but not him.

"Gully and Fawkner were his stepping stones as a coach then he really made an impression at Springvale and he did a wonderful job there."

Macleod also coached at Sunshine George Cross which was his last club before joining Langwarrin in State League Division Four for the 1999 season.

His marathon stint as head coach has given him ample time to reflect on the many senior players that have come and gone at Lawton Park since 1999 and he can single them out in a variety of categories:

"The most skilful players I've seen here are Ben Caffrey and Barry Tulloch," said Macleod.

"The bravest player has to be Greg Kilner for all the tackles he took from behind and the toughest players have been Mark Duff, Trent Fairclough, Steve Chetkuti, Libba (Lirim Rasimi) and Richie Armstrong.

"The most athletic player has got to be Chris Quinn and the best goalscorers have been Liam Caffrey, Kilner, Craigie Lewis and Caleb Nicholes.

"The most dedicated player has to be Darren McClenaghan and the quickest player was Simon O'Donnell. "But the player with the greatest leadership qualities was Shaun Parton, who was absolutely immense in his time here."

Macleod continues to ply his trade not only at club level but also as a Coaching Instructor with Football Federation Victoria. Having participated in senior coaching courses with Football Federation Australia he is regarded as being one of the most qualified coaches on the Victorian circuit and many of the younger breed have at one time or another been at a FFV course conducted by him.

"A lot of people see Gus, especially opposition supporters and coaches, as being loud and domineering. Nothing could be further from the real person. The work he does behind the scenes with the junior girls and boys and the development squads he tutors is testament to his principles of developing the game at every opportunity," said Collyer.

Someone who can attest to that fact is former Socceroo Vince Grella. The current Blackburn Rovers midfielder was given his first senior game during Macleod's reign at Springvale City and that was his springboard towards an outstanding career as a professional footballer.

Right now Macleod and Collyer can reflect on a season of struggle for Langwarrin with the club hanging onto its State One status by a hair's breadth. Should they avoid the drop this may prove to be their greatest achievement at their club.

Last month things looked bleak knowing that in the last five games of the season Langy had to face the top three sides and had to play one of them, Southern Stars, twice. But Langwarrin drew with the "big three" in three consecutive matches.

The only respite in that horror draw was Saturday's away game against a talented Pascoe Vale, a game in which Langwarrin came back from a two-goal deficit to snatch another precious point courtesy of a 3–3 draw.

The team that Macleod and Collyer oversee has been undefeated in its last four games and squares up to Southern Stars in a season defining clash on Saturday at Lawton Park.

The teams around Langwarrin's position on the table may have better squads and their playing budget may be a stratosphere away from Langwarrin's but one thing they don't have is the coaching prowess of Macleod and his trusted cohort in Collyer – the "Odd Couple" might still have a trick or two up their sleeves in the final round of the competition that could see them stay with Langwarrin for another season.

As usual "Felix" has the last word:

"We all joke about Gus staying on for his long service leave entitlements but the reality is that he is the fabric of the club and I know that he would dearly love to have a real crack at winning the league for all the diehard Langy supporters, committee people, playing staff and the Mornington Peninsula region in general.

"And for his old friend Steve Wallace who passed away recently as it was Steve who originally brought him to the club. That's something I know he thinks about often."

Last year's World Cup finals in South Africa, left to right: Gus Macleod, ex-England striker Andy Cole, ex-Langy striker Greg Kilner, Neil Collyer.

The 1980 Metropolitan League Division One champions. Back row, left to right: Danny McMinimee, Neil Collyer, Ernie Merrick, Peter Thurlow, Lou Ivanoff, Paul Corke, Mark Walters, Brian Kay, John McFarlane. Front: Alan Quinn, John McDonald, Arthur Cherry, Alex McConville, Hugh Campbell, Gordon Bentley, Steve Irvine. Photo: LES SHORROCK.

Cup Victory Runneth Over For Northcote

NORTHCOTE CITY 2

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 0

Match Details

Northcote City:
1. Charles Treacey (Gk), 2. Adrian Chiappetta, 3. Kristian Konstandinidis, 5. Nick Tzoulis, 7. Jonathan Voulgaris, 8. Nicholas Curtis, 9. Trent Rixon, 10. Glen Trifiro, 11. Harry Kinigopoulos, 12. Hayden D'agostino, 23. Jason Trifiro

Subs:
22. Chris Petropoulos (Gk), 15. George Mc Heileh, 16. Paul Savio, 18. James Kalafatidis, 19. Dean Piermonte

Melbourne Knights:
1. Aaron Romein (Gk), 2. Shaun Romein, 3. Ryan Filipovic, 5. Leo Shin, 8. Stefan Barcievic, 9. Brandon Zezovski, 10. Josip KoZic, 11. Anthony Colosimo, 19. Adam Zilic, 20. Jacob Colosimo, 22. Craig Sweeney

Subs:
21. Paul Monaco (Gk), 7. Rivdan Saglam, 14. Julian Cassano, 15. Yusuf Yusuf, 17. Anthony Boras

By David Manuca

Northcote City SC have been crowned inaugural winners of the Mirabella Cup competition after defeating Melbourne Knights 2-0 in the final at AAMI Park on Saturday afternoon.

In an evenly contested first-half, Glen Trifiro broke the deadlock in the 40th minute after he was in the right place at the right time to get on the end of a Trent Rixon cut back.

Nicholas Curtis doubled Northcote's lead on 71 minutes effectively putting the game to rest after a very poor performance by Melbourne Knights.

Goal-scorer Glen Trifiro was awarded the Billy Vojtek medal for best on ground and he praised his teammates for the hard work put in all season long.

"It was about going out there and keeping consistent with my performances this year. My teammates helped me out, and it helps a lot to have my brother (Jason) next to me," Glen said. "When the coach gives you freedom, you go out there and enjoy yourself, and you reap the rewards."

Northcote City manager, Peter Tsolakis, was ecstatic with the victory - the clubs first major trophy in its history.

"Nothing compares to winning something like this, which almost every team in Victoria participates in," he said. "I think (the Mirabella Cup) is fantastic. As a player I won 3 Dockerty Cups, so now winning as a coach is fantastic as well."

Northcote almost made the perfect start after Curtis played a lovely through ball to Rixon who hit his shot straight at Knights goalkeeper Aaron Romein.

Knights created their first chance of the match on 18 minutes when captain Josip Kozic played in a lovely cross into the box but Brandon Zezovski could only direct his header wide of the goal.

The next chance of the game fell to Trifiro just before half-time and he had no qualms about burying the ball into the back of the net. Rixon found space in the area and had the poise to play the ball off to Trifiro in the centre for the midfielder to tap the ball home.

Melbourne Knights came from 1-0 down at half-time in the mid-week semi-final against Oakleigh to book a place in the final and would have to produce a similar performance if they were to turn around the match against Northcote who were undoubtedly the better side in the first-half.

The second-half was a bit more entertaining than the first but some poor touches by both teams was keeping the game from reaching its full potential. With Melbourne Knights pushing players forward in search for an equalizing goal it left gaps open in defence which Northcote would ultimately pounce on.

It took until the 71st minute for either side to create a clear-cut opportunity in the second period when Kristian Konstantanidis put Curtis through on goal with the number 8 expertly dispatching his chance to double Northcote's advantage.

James Kalifatidis had the ball in the back of the net in injury-time but the assistant referee ruled the goal out for offside.

The full-time whistle blew with the Northcote fans in attendance jumping to their feet in unison to celebrate the greatest moment in Northcote City's history.

IN the curtain-raiser Cobram Victory defeated Ballarat Red Devils 2-1 to take out the Mirabella Regional Challenge Trophy.

Cam Miles headed Cobram into the lead inside the first minute before Paul McClounan equalised for the Red Devils on 28 minutes before Craig Carley netted what proved to be the winning goal for Cobram ten minutes before half-time.

Curtains! Northcote City's Nic Curtis puts the reult beyond doubt with the second goal late in the match. Photo: DANIEL FLIS

All good things come to an end: Knights coach Paul Magdic consoles players after their cup run produced a runners up medal. Photo: DANIEL FLIS

Brothers in arm: Gold Medalist Jason Trifiro celebrates with his brother and Billy Vojtek Medalist, Glen, who scored the opening goal. Photo: DANIEL FLIS

NORTHCOTE CITY

1. Charles TREACEY (GK) – 6.3 - Didn't have the best of games in goal. He dropped the ball, missed a punch which he came charging out for and his kicks were inaccurate.

2. Adrian CHIAPPETTA- 6.5 - Had a solid game at the back. Made some good headers as he was strong in the air.

3. Kristian KONSTANDINIDIS- 7.3 - Had a great game at the back as he was strong in the air against the small Knights Attack and also made some good interceptions.

5. Nick TZOULIS - 6.5 - Wasn't really noticeable in Central Midfield for Northcote City. Came off for James Kalafatidis on 60 minutes.

7. Jonathan VOULGARIS - 7.8 - Had a great game on the wings for Northcote City. He looked dangerous while running at players and looked like he could run all day. Came off on 80 minutes for Dean Piemonte.

8. Nicholas CURTIS - 7.5 - Like Voulgaris had a great game on the wing. He made some good passes and got onto the scoresheet with a good finish after being played in by Konstandinidis.

9. Trent RIXON - 6.8 - The man up front didn't play his best game but was still involved. Got an assist as he cut the ball back for Glen Trifiro to open the scoring. Drifted out of the second-half however.

10. Glen TRIFIRO - 8.5 - Had a great game in the no 10 role as he won the Billy Vujek Medal for man of the match. Showed some good passing, was great on set pieces and turned nicely in Midfield.

11. Harry KINIGOPOULOS - 7.1 - Had a good game to finish his career on after 300 plus games for Northcote City. Looked good going forward, passed and covered his defence well.

12. Hayden D'AGOSTINO - 6.5 - Didn't have the best of games as he looked to slow and his passing were inaccurate.

23. Jason TRIFIRO - 7.5 - The VPL Gold Medallist had a good game where he was good on the ball with passes and touches. Showed some good strength for a small man.

Substitutes:

15. George Mc Heileh - N/A - Came on the 92nd minute for Trent Rixon and couldn't make an impact.

16. Paul Savio - N/A - Came on the 86th minute for Jason Trifiro and didn't make an impact.

18. James Kalifatidis - 7.2 - Came on for Nick Tzoulis on 60 minutes and played well. He looked good on the ball running at defenders and also scored in injury time however the goal was ruled for offside.

19. Dean Piemonte - 7.1 - Came on late for Jonathan Voulgaris and supplied Kalifatidis with a great ball but unfortunately it was ruled to be offside.

Cup Kings! The champagne flows and they'll be dancing in the streets of Northcote this week after their boys remained the last team standing from a pool of over 200 entrants. Photo: DANIEL FLIS

Melbourne Knights' Adam Zllic provides the opposition for Northcote City's Jonathon Voulgaris. Photo: DANIEL FLIS

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS

1. Aaron Romein - 6.7 - Had a decent game where he made a good catch and did some good closing down but his clearances let him down.

2. Shaun Romein - 6.7- Sat deep in Central Midfield and wasn't involved much. He did have a half attempt as he tried to flick on a Kozic free kick but it was blocked.

3. Ryan Filipovic - 6.6 - The tall Centre Back made some good headers but also had a chance to equalise but missed his kick in the six yard box.

5. Leo Shin - 6.6 - Had a decent game where he did well to cover his defence and made some good tackles but he also lost the ball easily and was ineffective in the attacking third.

8. Stefan Baricevic - 6.5 - Wasn't involved much as he made a decent tackle or two but was substituted for Yusuf Yusuf at Half-Time.

9. Brandon Zezovski - 6.8 - The youngster had a good game for a young player. He showed some pace as he beat the defence. He also had a great chance with a header in the first-half but put it wide.

10. Josip Kozic - 6.5 - The Knights captain had a poor game where he passing was inaccurate but did look good on set piece duty. Came off for Ruidan Saglam on 88 minutes.

11. Anthony Colosimo - 6.7 - The wide man couldn't get into the game but did have a decent shot go just wide after teaming up with his brother Jacob.

19. Adam Zilic - 5.8 - Had a poor game at Centre Back where he missed some interceptions, missed controlled the ball and played some poor passes. Had a shaky game.

20. Jacob Colosimo - 6.1 - Had a poor game where he couldn't get many touches. Moved out wide and dropped deeper but still couldn't get on the ball.

22. Craig Sweeney - 6.9 - Had a decent game where he made some good passes but some poor ones too. Also turned well in Midfield.

Substitutes:

7. Ruidan Saglam - N/A - Came on for josip kozic on 88 minutes and failed to make an impact.

15. Yusuf Yusuf - 6.6 - Came on at half-time for Stefan Baricevic and played on the Left Wing. Had one decent shot which was deflected. Other than that couldn't get involved much.

The Cup finalists line up for the official ceremony before getting down to the serious business. Photo: DANIEL FLIS

Bend it like Glen! Northcote's Glen Trifiro attemtpts to penetrate the Knights goal with a dangerous free-kick. Photo: DANIEL FLIS

Mirabella Cup Final Quotes

Compiled By Daniel Quinn

Northcote coach, Peter Tsolakis, keeps an eye on the clock with Goran Lozanovski. Photo:DAN FLIS

Peter Tsolakis, Northcote City coach

2-0 win, nice and solid. I guess the plan paid off?
Yeah, look I thought early on in the first 25 minutes they were on top of us, although we had a good chance in the first couple minutes with big Trent. I thought they were on top of us possession wise, they were dictating terms but they weren't really harming us in terms of getting behind us. I rejigged it a little bit and through Johnny Voulgaris up front then I thought the game changed in favour of us. We started to get more possession, we started to build up on confidence and as it always is in tight games like cup finals a goal came out of nothing where it wasn't really a good build up. It just fell for Trent who kept it in, could have let it run out for a corner, knocked it back and we managed to get that goal. Once we got that goal I think the longer it went they had to open up. In the second-half realistically it could have had another couple as I didn't think they really created much in terms of really trying to hurt us.

First piece of silverware in the club's history at a top level. What has it been like in the rooms? How is the club and how is the supporters reacting?
Yeah, really good. Look we have one a couple of championships in the lower leagues over the past couple of years when we were in the Second Division and then we got up into the First Division then we got up into the Premier League. But nothing compares to winning something like which every team in Victoria participates in. They haven't really won any silverware so this was fantastic. All the old guys who have around the club for thirty odd years are very stoked and I feel they are looking to live it up tonight. It's a mean feat for the club today. It's something prestigious that Northcote's name is out there.

How did you think you guys went on a team performance level?
I thought we did quite well apart from the first 25 minutes. After that I thought we got on top of them and kept the ball and on the brake in the second-half we could have scored another one or two goals that we probably deserved but I thought we did quite well as a team.

What do you think about the return of the cup football to Victorian Football?
I think it's fantastic, I think it's really good. I personally think the season with 22 games with finals is a bit small. I think it should be longer, maybe 24 or 26 games with a finals series but this gives you a extra five, six, seven games depending how long you stay in the competition. I think it's fantastic. As a player I won three Dockerty Cups which is the equivalent to this. Winning it as a player was fantastic and now wining it as a coach is fantastic as well.

What did you think of AAMI Park?
Fantastic stadium, It is a really good stadium. Last week was the first time, I came here to watch the Grand Final and I was in awe with the actual stadium but the playing surface is fantastic. I could just image with thirty thousand people there, the atmosphere will be electrifying so fantastic stadium, world class.

Josip Kozic was mentioning they struggled with fitness after having the last month or so off after missing finals. How did your boys cope, how did you prepare for games, did you train or did you just make a last minute preparation?
Yeah, look we kept training. We weren't sure when the next game was going to be played. We played our last game against South Melbourne in the home and away season. We didn't qualify to make the finals so for then for us it was a stretch of probably of five weeks where we only played one game against White Eagles so it was hard to keep that enthusiasm going and that intensity at training. We did train twice a week for that duration of time but it was nothing like a home and away season where you really work and admittedly it's just human nature when you know you are not playing the next couple weeks it's hard to get the boys up. But to their credit they were really professional about it and they didn't skip training and they still turned up and to their credit this is the fruit of their labour.

Josip Kozic, Melbourne Knights captain

A great second-half last week, just couldn't pull it together this week. What are your thoughts about the game?
Yeah it was a great second-half last week, it was good to win after being 1-0 down and to turn it around and to go into a Grand Final. It was just a lack of fitness, we haven't played for the past four weeks, that was a big factor. We didn't play any big matches and that played a big part leading up to this cup final so a lack of fitness and we lost a couple of players who went overseas so some of the reserve team players played a part today. Saying that no excuses I suppose.

What do you think of your performance personally?
I suppose it wasn't up to scratch but there are some little niggles there but what do you do? I usually don't talk about my own performance but it wasn't up to scratch I suppose.

What do you think about the restructured domestic knock-out football in Victoria?
It was great. We haven't had it in years so I suppose it's a good thing. We get a little FA Cup sort of thing down here and it gives the lower teams a chance to participate and get a chance to play against bigger clubs als Melbourne Croatia, South Melbourne Hellas. It's good to see, hopefully we get the A-League teams in their next year so there will be a bit more excitement.

What was it like to play on AAMI Park?
It was great. Everyone looks forward to playing on this ground, it's brand new stadium and it's awesome to play on and it's bigger than the rest of them. It was a great surface so you cannot complain about that.

Glen Trifiro, Nocthcote City (Billy Vojtek Medalist)

You got a goal, the Billy Vojtek Medal. How did you find today?
Obviously it helps to play on a good pitch like this at AAMI Park. The guys have done really well to get to play the Final on. Look for me it was just about going out there and keeping it consistent with my performances this year. Team mates help me out, it helps a lot to have my brother next to me. We understand each other very well and the coach gives you freedom and you go out and enjoy yourself and reap the awards. I think it is a testament to the hard work we have put out to what you get out at the end.

Good season for the Trifiro Brothers?
Yeah, it is our first together, playing together because a lot of coaches think that we are too similar to play together but Gus(Peter Tsolakis) has had full confidence in us from the get go and it always helps because we are always together pretty much while growing up. We play together, we train together, we understand each other more than anyone so why wouldn't you want to have to boys than one?

Historic day for Northcote City. How does it feel to be apart? A lot of people have been waiting a long time for this. What is the feeling like in the rooms at the moment?
Look, we are ecstatic in there because I have only been part of Northcote for one year but there are people who have been here since the beginning so for me to be apart that and to see Toddy (Harry Kinigopoulous) who is a legend of the club, it's his last game today and the passion that this club has got and it's very good to be a part of it and to say that I've played for Northcote City.

Two brothers, two medals. Which one would you say is the better medal? Would it be better today that you have got something over him?
Look it helps but I mean my brother has had a great season and he deserves the big medal of the year and I am happy and proud of him and this is just a little one to get me. I'm not that too far away.

What do you think of a state wide knockout cup to Victoria?
Look, it's fantastic, it's a good concept and I think it should be played all around Australia in every league. To give the little teams a chance to play the big teams and vice versa, it's fantastic, it's a good concept and I think it should carry on.

Northcote City keeper Charle Treacy cuts out the danger. Photo: DANIEL FLIS

What did you think of your performance over the whole season?
Look, for me it was a good season. It was tidy because at the end of the day we were successful, we got close to final series and this was a good result for the club and on a personal not I missed six or seven games with a broken toe which didn't help me at all. But I got as fit as quick as I could and I got back in there and it's just good to be back in with the boys.

Trent Rixon, Northcote City

2-0 win, AAMI Park, Mirabella Cup. It can't get better than this can it?
Nah, it's on the big stage at AAMI Park a new stadium, quality outfit there. Look to win the game we battled, they are a good team Knights. We knew they were going to come out hard at us and end of the day we observed the pressure in the first 25 minutes and started to play some good Football. So we will take the win.

What did you think of the playing surface?
Oh. its second to none isn't it. Back at home in Northcote our pitch is a shambles unfortunately because of the overuse on it, but to come here with no bobbles, no nothing, it's quality.

How did you personally approach the match and did you come out today like you would any other game or was it bigger for the boys, bigger preparation?
There was a bit of hype at the club I suppose. Obviously finals don't come around often. I personally played in one, a Grand Final, and lost so it has always been in the back of my head. Really, it is another game but in the end of the day it was for something. At the end of the day you win the game and we have got the trophy.

What's on for the summer?
Summer? Might relax I reckon, probably have one or one and a half months off just to relax and get the body right again before we start up preseason in late November. So have a good preseason and hopefully bang a few more goals next year.

What do you think of the return of the Cup Football to Victoria?
I reckon it's not too bad. If it's done properly and run well I reckon it's a good little side cup so to speak with the whole of Victoria in it. It's just not the Victorian VPL teams, it's the whole of country Victoria and I reckon it's good, it's good to get all them younger teams in.

There have been some rumours around about you going to Sydney. Anything happening there? No A-League rumours for you? You not signing on anywhere? You not going to trial anywhere over the summer?
I got in contact with them maybe two weeks ago and they wanted to sort of fly me down sort of last week which it was a bit hard that I knew that the Mirabella Cup still being on that to go away from the boys, to miss training session before Semi or Grand Finals it sort of makes it hard. Maybe down the track I'll get the call up but at this stage, nah.

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Round 19

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Round 19 Wrap

Late drama ensures ladder re-shuffle

By Matthew Montgomery

It's smiles all around as the Albert Park boys swamp striker, Rodrigo (second left) for his winning strike with seconds remaining.

North's keeper, Christos Apostolakis was only the third keeper this season to keep a clean sheet this season.

Balwyn manager, Matt Obeid (R) embraces striker David Straniero on his impressive 5 goals in his return from injury.

FC Melbourne 0
North Melbourne FC 6

The first clash on the round 19 card was the Melbourne derby, where Melbourne in 10th place took on North Melbourne in pole position.

The Melbourne line-up looked particularly thin by their usual standards, as Lee Dore and Fab De Britto were both missing. North on the other hand remained unchanged from last weeks win against Brunswick. The first half opened with Melbourne holding their own as they revealed their game plan by sitting back and absorbing all of the pressure that the North lads were piling on. But the underdogs could only keep out the brilliance of Fernando De Moraes for so long as he opened the scoring with a well timed 1-2 with Jon Barrientos.

The current league leaders continued their domination soon after as Tiago Priori and Adam Cooper both hit the post, but Cooper went one better minutes later when he thumped Priori's corner ball into the roof of the Melbourne net. Japanese midfielder, Hara Yoshinao made it 3-0 with a little dink over keeper, Harry Kitharidis and Colby Waterfield's 5th foul penalty kick enforced their domination over their lower ranked opponents before half time.

With having struggled to get a genuine shot on target in the first half, Melbourne had a little window of opportunity to get one back as Dominik Rafati and Mael Gulliou made very similar and effective runs into the "D" and had open nets to shoot into, but were unable to convert. To be fair they were under extreme pressure from North's defence. Determined to keep their first clean sheet of the year, North bounced back to score two more goals through Jon Barrientos and Yoshinao who top scored for his side with a double for a comfortable 6-0 win.

Melbourne battled quite well for not having a clear avenue to goal in their line up, but it was an impossible task to defeat a North Melbourne side who are so close to their first piece of silverware under Milton Sakkos they can taste it!

Melbourne, as always will bounce back and they will be fancying their chances against Ashburton next week. But goal scorers are a necessity.

FC Prahran 5
Metropolitan FC 6

The second game of the night was an outright glamour clash as 5th positioned Prahran took on Metropolitan who were in 6th and in red-hot form as they have won their last three games – including their round 13 catch-up game win over Melbourne last Sunday in which they triumphed 8-4.

There were significant inclusions for both sides as Michael Chami replaced Dima Shakhanov in goals along with Marcus Barbosa, while Metro welcomed back enforcer Irzad Spijodic after a 7 round absence. The opening half started with a bang as Prahran's in form striker, Maxi Avram scored from distance while sneaking the ball in from a ridiculous angle.

Jusu Avdic then soon levelled the scores with a booming free-kick which went between the Prahran defensive wall. Minutes later, Irzad Spijodic in his first game back from injury put his body on the line yet again as he beat Michael Chami to a loose ball in the "D" and made it 2-1.

Maxi Avram then hustled and bustled to get his side back into the game as he hit the inside of the right post, and then hit a shot across the goal-mouth to an awaiting Ben Armstrong at the back post, but he couldn't hit home. Not taking their opportunities ended up hurting the Prahran boys as Metro captain, Dino Redzepovic made it 3-1 before half-time.

It was goal for goal for a long while when the second half opened up. Alija scored a typical goal poachers goal to open the scoring, but Maxi Avram's quick reply made it 4-2. Tomo Grgic's 1-2 with Alija reinstated the sky blues three goal buffer, but again, Prahran replied through Cameron Holmes' close range strike to make it 5-3.

The red and blues could have levelled the scores as Marcus Barbosa hit the post and Clint Mogoai missed an open goal! But Mogoai and Barbosa made amends by scoring the next two goals and levelling the game at 5-5 with the final whistle nearing. As both teams searched for a winner, it was little Alija Redzepovic that claimed the winner after bettering Michael Chami in a 1 on 1 situation.

Cameron Holmes could have levelled the scores with seconds remaining but he was gloriously denied by the right post. It was Metro's 4th win on the trot and they are looking to be finding form at the right end of the season as the cup is only three rounds away.

CF Brunswick 7
Ashburton FC 7

The third game scheduled to take place on the card saw Brunswick in 4th pitted against Ashburton in 9th. Ashburton remained unchanged from last weeks disappointing loss to Albert Park last week, while Brunswick were without defender Damir Marusic, missing through a red card suspension.

The first half started more brightly for the boys in red, as Ruz Roslan's shot from distance gave Brunswick an early lead, but a clumsy challenge in the "D" by reds keeper, Brendan Chen gifted Ashburton a penalty which James Blackburn calmly converted to level the game.

Blackburn then surprisingly sent his side into the lead as he was given too much space to shoot from distance at Chen's goal. Danny Ngaluafe pulled the scores level soon after, but it was Blackburn's beautifully timed strike from distance that gave the green machine a slender and unlikely lead at half time. The second half started similar to the first as a Munya Nyadzayo double sent the red's back in front 4-3. Ashburton's captain, Manny Karas, led by example by bagging the equaliser, but his efforts were soon cancelled out by Roslan and Munya who reinstated their lead at 5-4.

Ashburton's Moe Alghorabi has one of the biggest hearts in the league and relishes in the heat of battle and he showed his worth by levelling the scores against the trend of play. Alghorabi's inspiring goal off the bench swung momentum into Ashburton's favour and Blackburn continued the momentum as he scored his 4th and gave the greens the lead with only a minutes remaining on the clock.

It was quite an entertaining final few minutes we were treated to as Brunswick hit the post twice through Mathieu Piga and Munya, but the biggest moment of the game was when Munya was given a close penalty spot kick to level the scores, but Ashburton's keeper, Jamie Tran read his moves like a book and made an unlikely save. From the resulting corner, Ngaluafe with a stunning strike under pressure levelled the game at 6 apiece!

A mere 20 seconds remained and the drama was not yet over, as Blackburn was given a free-kick which he quickly hit past a 4-man wall to an unmarked Mark Burton at the back-post for the winner! It was truly an amazing game!

One that will be remembered by both sides in seasons to come, and it may be a result that sees Ashburton claim that all important 8th spot to see top flight futsal next season!

Pascoe Vale FC 8
Fitzroy FC 6

The third blockbuster of the night saw top four rivals, Pascoe Vale in 2nd go up against Fitzroy in 3rd. Pascoe Vale boosted their goal keeping stocks by recruiting young NSW keeper, Mark Brackering, while Fitzroy also had a keeper change with regular #1 Steve Cuce unavailable and being replaced by Anthony Lascala.

Chris Yang also came back into the side replacing George Mc Heileh. Pascoe Vale got off to a strong and unsurprising start as Adam Husseini, Joao Da Silva and Ahmed Azzam got on the scoresheet. Lucas Johns pulled one back for the youngsters as he turned Andre Caro and finished between Greg Lascaris' legs.

That single goal seemed to give Fitzroy a little confidence, but that confidence was soon quelled as Da Silva bobbed up and scored the next two goals completing a first half hat-trick and the 5-1 score line. Pascoe Vale's confidence grew greater in the second half as Andre Caro shot from a ridiculous angle and caught Lascala unaware. Richie Ferguson, a former Pascoe Vale player instrumented a mini-comeback as he added two quick goals to reduce the deficit to 6-3.

Da Silva with his fourth sent his toe-poker into the top right corner of Lascala's net to kill of any kind of Fitzroy attack, but the energetic youngsters – with nothing to loose – somehow clawed their way back as Stephen Gustus and Richie Ferguson's 3rd and 4th goals of the game made it 7-6 with very little time on the clock. It seemed a nervy debut by the young Brackering of Pascoe Vale, but his blushes were spared as Da Silva slotted past Lascala for his 5th, an 8-6 win and a man of the match performance.

It was a brave performance by the Fitzroy boys, but it could have been a different result if they had the belief that they could defeat last seasons champions at the start of the game.

A promising sign that the boys in yellow will be a force to be reckoned with for the upcoming FOz Cup. Whereas Pascoe Vale have Da Silva to thank for his get out of jail card!

FC Essendon 3
Albert Park FC 3

The heart stopping encounters continued long into the night as 7th placed Essendon did battle with an Albert Park side who were still beaming after their hard-fought 4-2 win over Ashburton last week.

There were new inclusions for both squads as Vlado Zoric joined Essendon, while Jaffar Al-Sari and Michael Garcia pulled on the Orange strip for Albert Park. The opening half began with Essendon completely dominating their lowly ranked opponents as Alex Stevanovic and Hooman Shekari both hit the post within minutes, but it was reds debutant, Vlado Zoric who led the way for his new side when Alex Stevanovic set him up for a 1 on 1 with keeper Kurt Fanourakis and Zoric's shot curved around Kurt and off the left post.

Stevanovic then made it 2-0 almost immediately after kick-off after he put away a save that Fanourakis made from Zoric and he couldn't hold onto. As time was running out in the first half, Mili Muratbegovic gave his side a life line as he toe poked from distance past Anthony Cianflone and made it 2-1 at the first break.

The second half saw a lot more action from both sides as Felipe Rilling levelled the game for Albert Park as he headed in Jaffar Al-Sari's deflected shot from close range. Al-Sari then came close to giving Albert Park the lead as his shot from half way beat Cianflone and came back off the post, it came back to bite the lads in orange as Hooman Shekari put Essendon back into the lead when he chipped Kurt from close range.

Albert Park, desperate to get back into the game threw everything at Essendon as they dominated they final minutes of play, and they were rewarded for their endeavour as in the remaining 10 seconds of play, Kurt's long throw found Rodrigo in the "D" who coolly back-heeled the equaliser to make it two results in two weeks for the leagues cellar dwellers. In all honesty, Essendon should have been able to hold on for the win, but it just goes to show that it's never over until that final whistle blows.

Essendon now are not guaranteed a cup position with only six points from safety and three games remaining. The really need to put their heads down and find form before the cup…. And fast!

FC Balwyn 7
Hume FC 4

To wrap up the night, the spectators were treated to a clash of great importance as Hume in 8th took on a fresh Balwyn side in 11th who had a bye last week.

The only inclusion for Hume was debutant Ahmet Karasakal, while they would miss the services of Enrique Iglesias and George Harrison. The first half opened with plenty of chances for Hume to take the lead, as Haider Noor called keeper, Frano Saric into a top shelf save and burly defender, Tony Saric saved Sacid Cicek's off the line to maintain the 0-0 score-line.

David Straniero, in his first game for Balwyn in 5 weeks, put his side into the lead as he scored two well taken goals in quick succession. Straniero could have had a third just before the break, but the brillance of Hume keeper Con Makris denied him and left the score at 2-0. The second half saw a lot more activity from both sides, but it was Hume who drew first blood when Diego Assaeda made a dashing run from halfway and side footed easily past Frano.

Straniero was again on hand to reinstate their two goal lead, but as Hume have done on so many occasions, they scrapped their way back as Cicek turned Mark Saric and his strike just beat Frano over the line, although Mark got his revenge when he streamed forward and slotted home a beautifully crafted goal along with the help of Jason Barrientos.

With the score at 4-2, Cicek again got his side back into the game with what many have labelled goal of the week as he coolly chipped Frano, despite the keeper getting a finger or two to the goal-bound strike. But from that point on, it was all Balwyn as Jason Barrientos' fierce toe-poke took a wicked deflection and into Makris' top right corner, and with Straniero's 4th and 5th goals of the game, it wrapped up the whites 5th win of the season and gave their chances of survival for next season a huge boost!

All there was time left for was a late consolation goal by Cicek who capped off an impressive game with a hat-trick. From this point you would bet that Balwyn will claim the final cup position as they are playing with a fierce intensity that will be hard for any team to overcome. They are playing as a team and for each other and should fancy their chances against North next week as they certainly have the calibre of players to challenge the leagues best side!

V-League Standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Nth Melbourne FC	19	17	1	0	140	59	81	55
2 Pascoe Vale FC	18	15	2	1	116	46	70	47
3 Metropolitan FC	19	12	1	6	117	100	17	35
4 Fitzroy FC	19	11	1	7	107	93	10	34
5 CF Brunswick	19	10	3	6	112	94	18	33
6 FC Prahran	19	8	2	9	113	95	18	26
7 FC Essendon	19	7	2	10	99	140	-41	23
8 Ashburton FC	19	5	3	11	98	122	-24	18
9 Hume FC	19	5	2	12	90	111	-21	17
10 FC Balwyn	18	5	1	12	71	88	-17	16
11 FC Melbourne	19	5	1	13	61	109	-48	16
12 Albert Park FC	19	2	2	15	79	142	-63	8

NIKE V-LEAGUE RESULTS Round 19 Wed Sep 7th

- 6:30 FC Melbourne v Nth Melbourne FC 0 - 6
- 7:15 FC Prahran v Metropolitan FC 5 - 6
- 8:00 CF Brunswick v Ashburton FC 7 - 7
- 8:45 Pascoe Vale FC v Fitzroy FC 8 - 6
- 9:30 FC Essendon v Albert Park FC 3 - 3
- 10:15 FC Balwyn v Hume FC 7 - 4

Round 13 Sunday September 4
- 1:00 Metropolitan FC v FC Melbourne 8 - 4

NIKE V-LEAGUE ROUND 20 Wed Sep 14th

- 6:30 FC Melbourne v Ashburton FC
- 7:15 FC Essendon v CF Brunswick
- 8:00 FC Prahran v Albert Park FC
- 8:45 Pascoe Vale FC v Hume FC
- 9:30 FC Balwyn v North Melbourne FC
- 10:15 Fitzroy FC v Metropolitan FC

NIKE V-LEAGUE Top Goal Scorers

1) A. Stevanovic FCE 41
2) A. Redzepovic Metro FC 40
3) J. Blackburn AFC 39
4) M. Avram FCP 38
5) M. Nyadzayo CFB 32

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Photos By
MATT MONTGOMERY

BOO'S WORLD

A look at the lighter side of football.

With Mark Boric

Congratulations Northcote City on taking out the Mirabella Cup Final, beating Melbourne Knights 2-0. It was a decent game in front of a vocal crowd and played in the right spirit. Even the losing captain Josip Kozic conceded that if he had to lose such a game it was a consolation that two legends of Australian football in Peter Tsolakis and Goran Lozanovski were amongst the victors.

Northcote could have wrapped the game up earlier but for some wayward finishing but the Knights never gave in. Glen Trifiro joined his brother Jason as a major medal winner this season in taking the Billy Vojtek Medal for man of the match, with Kristian Konstantinidis is perhaps a little unlucky to miss out. Hopefully the Cup is back for good, it provided plenty of memorable moments in 2011.

It was also a great win for the Socceroos in midweek, with a 3-1 triumph over Saudi Arabia. The performance was an improvement on last Friday's 1-0 win over Thailand and progression to the next stage of World Cup qualification is now pretty much assured. Interesting to have Timmy Cahill on the bench, but unlike Pim Verbeek you can trust Holger Osieck to know what he is doing.

It's pretty disappointing that the FFV no longer releases the full Gold Medal votes. All that we get nowadays is the final top ten leaderboard, which is pretty poor considering the information age we live in and that the full round by round results have been available in the past.

If Melbourne City are the first club to fold becaue of the current wave of massive FFV fines, they won't be missed. Didnt't they play an ineligible player for almost a full season a few years ago? This week they fell foul of a $20,000 penalty which may threaten their existance.

Nice to see the FFV finally updated the match ball licensees on their website. You may recall a few weeks ago I questioned why Calibre match balls were being used in the AVPL Finals when they were not an official match ball licensee. Well they have since been added to the website, which tells us "The five licensed ball manufacturers for the 2010-2011 licensing period are: adidas, Errea, Mitre, Nike, Patrick, Calibre, Pelada". Looks like Calibre and Pelada have just been added to the list, without bothering to change the "five" ball manufacturers to "seven".

Has there ever been an A-League pre-season where so many teams have struggled against State/Premier League opponents? This week Sydney FC, fielding a virtually full strength team minus Brett Emerton returning from Socceroos duty, were beaten 1-0 by Sydney Olympic. Melbourne Victory have been beaten by Dandenong Thunder and Bentleigh Greens. Fully professional teams should never be beaten by part-timers, or else their professionalism is just not that good.

Harry Kewell will be able to spot Melbourne pretty early as his plane descends to land when he arrives next week. It won't be the bright lights of the city that catch his eye, rather the flares around the airport from the fans gathering for his arrival.

KATSA'S KORNER

Resident hack with a career spanning over 700 Games (685 in the Provisional League Reserves) and 15 senior cameo appearances.

With George Katsamboukas

With the VPL Title being determined last week, all eyes were on the Semi Finals of the Mirabella Cup Semi Finals, where the Blue and White's from Northcote accounted for VPL Champions Green Gully, whilst the Oakleigh Cannons let another one get away, giving another lead away to lose 2-1 to the Melbourne Knights.

Fast Forward to last Saturday where Northcote and Melbourne Knights played out the Cup Final which was scheduled at a very interesting time by the House Of Darebin, in that it was played on Saturday Afternoon with a 4 pm Kick Off at AAMI Park.

Many punters were not able to get to this Match as there own teams were playing at this time, meaning that what could have potentially been a healthy crowd, was limited to fans of these finalists team's only.

Marketing 101 was not one of my strengths back in my formative years, but such a clash in fixturing would have the effect on the success of the Final as someone strolling in with a hose containing freezing cold water, in a Happy End Establishment.

Apparently, Lucky You're With AAMI Park was not available on the Sunday, due to the Rugby being Played, surely a Mid Week Night Fixture would have been a better option?

For the record, Northcote defeated the Melbourne Knights, continuing on their strong run that saw them playing State 2 Football a few years back, to now being one of the protagonists of the VPL.

Hats of to them, with one of the smallest player budgets going around, they have built their success around a team of players who play firstly for the Shirt and the Club, with Money not being the main reason why they chose to play for Northcote.

Coach Peter Tsolakis has done a tremendous job over the Years, taking them from a struggling State 2 outfit, to winning Back to Back Titles and promotions. to then being a very competitive team in the VPL over the last 2 years.

One Round to go and some Club Powerbrokers who's Teams are very close to achieving Promotion are calling the Nasal Spray Technology Companies, as they can see a Happy End in sight.

At the other end of the spectrum, Club Powerbrokers who's Teams are in the Westgate Zone and need points to avoid the dreaded trip to the Westgate, are giving a new meaning to the term Comfort Eating.

They are also giving the J Walkers a flogging and the next 2 weeks cannot come quickly enough for them

One Club Powerbroker who's Club has not travelled as well as he would have liked this year, made the fatal mistake of calling me on Saturday Night, as he ventured into the local Supermarket.

Bingo I thought, surely what he tells me will be enough to complete this Column, and to clock up more words than Boo.

Instead of providing news of his Teams performance, he went through a blow by blow description of what he was popping into his shopping basket.

List is as follows, Club Powerbrokers doing it tough - take note, it may be your Saviour.

Cadburys Chocolate Blocks x 2
Mint Slices
Smiths Crisps
Choc Wedges x 6
Strawberries (Surely this is Happy End Food)
Tim Tams
Strawberry Ice Cream
1.25 Litres Coca Cola X 2

Total cost $55 - Thank you for shopping Safeway - please call again!

Over to the A-League will go, which will kick of in earnest in a few weeks.

Where Wellington Phoenix are in a wee bit of strife, as their owners financial woes means that they are on the hunt for new financial backers.

Hopefully they will be found, as the A-League can ill afford to have another Team drop out.

On the local front we shall stay, with the VPL barely finished for the year, the Coaching merry Go Round has begun in earnest.

Andy Vlahos takes over the Numero Uno Role at Heidelberg, and there are number of other Clubs interviewing Coach's for Season 2012.

Until next week

This is Katsa - Just as you have known him

Men's Metropolitan League & Women's Weekend Scoreboard

Mens Metropolitan League North-West: Rd 21: Keon Park 1 Bundoora Utd 1, Light Utd 2 Tullamarine Jets 5, Northern Utd 0 Sunshine Heights Western Tigers FC 9, Mitchell Rangers 3 (A Pepper M Elorr JM Harvey) Oak Park SC 1 Reserves: Rd 21: Keon Park 2 Bundoora Utd 4, Light Utd 6 Tullamarine Jets 4, Northern Utd 0 Sunshine Heights Western Tigers FC 6, Mitchell Rangers 2 (C Maidment J De Battista) Oak Park SC 5

Mens Metropolitan League South-East: Rd 21: Glen Waverley 1 Old Mentonians 0, Ringwood City 6 Endeavour Hills 0, Sandown Lions FC 8 Old Haileybury 1, Aston Athletic Football Club 2 St Kevins 1, Harrisfield Hurricanes 7 (R Pietrosanto J Harfield 3 J Hodges 2 A Nautu) Parkmore 0, Reserves: Rd 21: Glen Waverley 4 Old Mentonians 0, Ringwood City 2 Endeavour Hills 3, Sandown Lions FC 2 Old Haileybury 1, Harrisfield Hurricanes 4 (A Nautu J Hodges 3) Parkmore 1,

Mens Metropolitan League Central: Rd 21: Melbourne Lions 0 North Lions 2, Altona North 4 Manningham 0, Moonee Valley Knights 4 Yarra Jets 4, Caulfield Grammarians 3 Carlton Youth 4 Reserves: Rd 21: Melbourne Lions 3 North Lions 3, Altona North 0 Manningham 1 (J Monge), Moonee Valley Knights 3 Yarra Jets 7, Caulfield Grammarians 4 Carlton Youth 2

Womens State League Div 1: Rd 18: South Yarra 0 Preston Lions 4, Reserves: Rd 18: Cairnlea 0 Monbulk Rangers SC 4, Uni. of Melbourne 2 (AA Gerner J Newman) Brighton 0, South Yarra 1 Preston Lions 11

Womens State League Div 2 North-West: Rd 18: Western Suburbs 0 FC Bulleen Lions 5 (EJ Coppock P Bernini S Tsobanopoulos M Simonetti C Brogno), North Geelong Warriors 2 (M Medved N Knezevic) Western Eagles 3 (A Sinclair K Hutt 2), Keilor Park 1 (D Lettieri) Darebin Falcons 4,

Womens State League Div 2 South-East: Rd 18: Ashburton 1 (E Meallin) Box Hill United Pythagoras SC 0, Noble Park 3 Whitehorse Utd 0, Berwick City 2 (S Anthony E Heeger (Rault)) Mooroolbark 0

Womens State League Div 3 North-West: Rd 18: Boroondara Eagles 3 Sunshine George Cross 0, Uni. of Melbourne 2 Melton 3, Diamond Valley Utd 3 Whittlesea Zebras 0,

Womens State League Div 3 South-East: Rd 18: Endeavour Utd 2 (N Walsh Own Goal) Baxter 2 (SL Matthews D Cuttriss), Langwarrin 3 (ME Cazaly L Mcnicol 2) Ashburton 1, Monash University 10 (L Arand 3 S Egan CE Herman C Vandestadt E Walker S Wood 3) Kingston City 0, Knox City 0 Croydon City Arrows 4

Womens Metropolitan League Central: Rd 18: Fitzroy City 2 Brunswick Zebras 0, Keilor Park 4 (CJ Pastore A Dargham 2 C Gluhak) Maribyrnong Swifts FC 3

Womens Metropolitan League East - North East: Rd 18: Swinburne University 0 Eltham Redback FC 1, Boroondara Eagles 7 Croydon City Arrows 0, Monash University 0 FC Bulleen Lions 2,

Mens Thirds League Div 1: Rd 18: South Yarra 9 La Trobe University 5,

Mens Thirds League Div 2 North-West: Rd 18: Melbourne University 3 Keilor Park 1,

Mens Thirds League Div 2 South-East: Rd 18: Riversdale 2 Melbourne University 1, Old Melburnians 6 Boroondara Eagles 0,

Mens Thirds League Div 3 North-West: Rd 18: Eltham Redback FC 4 La Trobe University 2, Altona City 5 (D Kalinic 2 I Kalinic D Jovetic S Pisak) Brimbank Stallions 2, Upfield 4 Kyneton District 3, Hoppers Crossing 3 Melton 1

Mens Thirds League Div 3 South-East: Rd 18: South Yarra 1 Central Park Rangers 2 0, Central Park Rangers 1 0 Monash University 1,

Mens Thirds League Div 4 North-West: Rd 18: Altona City 9 Moreland Wolves 0, Melbourne University 0 North Sunshine Eagles 3,

Mens Thirds League Div 4 South-East: Rd 18: Old Trinity Grammarians 3 Scotch Old Boys 2, Caulfield Cobras 10 Monash University 1, Old Melburnians 7 Ashburton 1

Mens Thirds League Div 5 South-East: Rd 18: East Bentleigh 3 (A McCarthy F Zuel Own Goal) Old Carey 1,

Mens Thirds League Div 6 North-West: Rd 18: Old Melburnians 2 Kyneton District 0, Hoppers Crossing 3 Bayside Argonauts 0

Mens Masters North-West: Rd 18: Moreland City 0 Whittlesea Utd 3, Brimbank Stallions 0 North Sunshine Eagles 2,

Mens Masters North-North-East: Rd 18: Eltham Redback FC 3 Box Hill United Pythagoras SC 1, Monash City 7 Glen Waverley 2,

Mens Masters South-East: Rd 18: Doveton 3 Kingston City 0,

Mens Masters Central: Rd 18: Collingwood City 5 Banyule City 3, South Yarra 10 Northcote City 0,

Mens Metropolitan League North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Bundoora Utd	19	12	4	3	59	27	40
Sunshine Heights Western Tigers FC	19	11	1	7	40	29	31
Light Utd	18	9	3	6	39	25	30
Keon Park	20	10	2	8	40	50	29
Tullamarine Jets	18	8	3	7	56	37	27
Oak Park SC	19	6	6	7	27	29	24
Mitchell Rangers	19	6	3	10	30	38	21
Keilor Wolves	19	5	4	10	32	45	19
Northern Utd	19	3	4	12	21	64	10

Mens Metropolitan League North-West Reserves

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Tullamarine Jets	18	16	0	2	77	30	48
Oak Park SC	19	13	1	5	66	36	40
Keilor Wolves	19	11	1	7	80	41	34
Bundoora Utd	19	11	1	7	57	38	34
Sunshine Heights Western Tigers FC	19	8	3	8	48	37	27
Light Utd	18	7	3	8	62	58	24
Mitchell Rangers	19	5	3	11	55	71	18
Keon Park	20	4	1	15	31	78	10
Northern Utd	19	3	1	15	28	115	10

Mens Metropolitan League South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Harrisfield Hurricanes	21	16	1	4	50	22	49
Aston Athletic Football Club	21	12	4	5	56	37	40
Sandown Lions FC	20	12	3	5	56	30	39
Glen Waverley	21	12	1	8	51	29	37
Old Mentonians	21	11	1	9	59	45	34
Dandenong Warriors	20	12	3	5	85	28	33
Ringwood City	20	9	4	7	42	40	31
St Kevins	21	9	2	10	45	37	29
Dandenong Wolves	20	6	3	11	40	80	18
Parkmore	21	4	3	14	43	82	15
Old Haileybury	21	2	6	13	23	69	12
Endeavour Hills	21	3	1	17	30	81	7

Mens Metropolitan League South-East Reserves

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Harrisfield Hurricanes	21	16	3	2	75	32	51
Glen Waverley	21	16	2	3	59	30	50
Dandenong Warriors	20	14	1	5	76	34	40
Sandown Lions FC	20	12	4	4	54	30	39
Old Mentonians	21	9	3	9	49	48	30
Ringwood City	20	9	2	9	49	44	29
Aston Athletic Football Club	20	6	6	8	38	47	24
St Kevins	20	7	2	11	30	49	23
Dandenong Wolves	20	6	2	12	58	67	19
Parkmore	21	5	4	12	33	52	19
Endeavour Hills	21	5	2	14	46	72	17
Old Haileybury	21	0	5	16	35	97	5

Mens Metropolitan League Central

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Albert Park	19	14	2	3	66	32	44
Altona North	19	12	3	4	49	27	39
Manningham	20	12	1	7	57	36	37
North Lions	19	11	3	5	42	30	33
Yarra Jets	19	9	3	7	42	44	27
Melbourne Lions	19	8	2	9	40	43	26
Carlton Youth	19	5	1	13	36	52	16
Caulfield Grammarians	19	4	1	14	33	57	13
Moonee Valley Knights	19	2	2	15	29	73	8

Mens Metropolitan League Central Reserves

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Albert Park	19	17	0	2	70	21	51
Manningham	20	14	4	2	57	19	46
Melbourne Lions	19	8	3	8	60	53	27
North Lions	19	7	7	5	34	31	25
Caulfield Grammarians	19	7	3	9	40	52	24
Carlton Youth	19	6	2	11	39	51	20
Altona North	19	5	5	9	39	54	20
Yarra Jets	19	5	2	12	37	61	17
Moonee Valley Knights	19	4	0	15	35	69	12
Ascot Vale	0	0	0	0			0

Womens State League Div 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Cairnlea	17	13	3	1	66	17	42
Preston Lions	18	12	5	1	50	15	41
Monbulk Rangers SC	17	11	4	2	49	10	37
Ballarat Lady Devils	17	11	4	2	52	18	37
Uni. of Melbourne	17	10	1	6	48	24	31
South Springvale	17	5	4	8	40	45	19
South Yarra	18	3	5	10	25	42	14
Albert Park	17	3	4	10	20	44	13
Brighton	17	3	0	14	13	53	9
Bayswater Strikers	17	0	0	17	10	105	0

Womens State League Div 1 Reserves

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Monbulk Rangers SC	18	16	1	1	64	4	49
Ballarat Lady Devils	17	13	3	1	84	12	42
Preston Lions	18	13	1	4	74	24	40
Cairnlea	18	11	0	7	64	38	33
Uni. of Melbourne	18	9	2	7	38	28	29
South Springvale	17	7	0	10	31	45	21
South Yarra	18	6	0	12	16	74	18
Brighton	18	5	0	13	19	49	15
Albert Park	17	3	1	13	17	47	10
Bayswater Strikers	17	1	0	16	14	100	3

Womens State League Div 2 North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
FC Bulleen Lions	18	17	0	1	66	7	51
Western Eagles	18	16	0	2	69	15	48
Darebin Falcons	18	10	1	7	47	41	31
Yarra Jets	17	8	2	7	44	38	26
Keilor Park	18	8	1	9	40	42	25
La Trobe University	17	6	4	7	33	26	22
North Geelong Warriors	18	8	1	9	40	35	22
Brunswick Zebras	17	5	2	10	28	27	17
Western Suburbs	18	1	4	13	14	68	7
Whittlesea Ranges FC	17	1	1	15	22	104	4

Womens State League Div 2 South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sandringham SC	16	13	0	3	58	16	39
Berwick City	16	11	1	4	53	24	34
Mooroolbark	16	10	3	3	50	22	33
Mornington	15	10	2	3	47	8	32
Ashburton	16	7	4	5	51	27	25
North Caulfield	15	6	2	7	51	32	20
Box Hill United Pythagoras SC	16	4	2	10	33	42	14
Noble Park	16	2	0	14	19	93	6
Whitehorse Utd	16	1	0	15	10	108	3

Womens State League Div 3 North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Boroondara Eagles	18	17	1	0	103	14	52
Eltham Redback FC	17	12	1	4	66	14	37
Melbourne Knights	17	12	1	4	57	24	37
Melton	18	11	2	5	43	32	35
Diamond Valley Utd	18	9	2	7	32	21	29
Sunshine George Cross	18	4	8	6	46	44	20
Old Carey	17	6	1	10	40	57	19
Brunswick City	17	5	2	10	39	58	17
Whittlesea Zebras	18	1	1	16	4	97	4
Uni. of Melbourne	18	0	3	15	16	85	3

Womens State League Div 3 South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Melbourne	17	16	0	1	86	11	48
Croydon City Arrows	17	15	0	2	45	11	45
Monash University	18	13	1	4	76	13	40
Langwarrin	18	8	2	8	37	35	26
Dandenong City	17	8	2	7	39	40	26
Ashburton	18	7	2	9	33	45	23
Endeavour Utd	18	4	4	10	33	51	16
Knox City	17	4	3	10	21	35	15
Kingston City	18	3	1	14	15	75	10
Baxter	18	2	1	15	14	83	7

Womens Metropolitan League North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
West Preston	15	13	2	0	76	10	41
Mitchell Rangers	16	11	3	2	40	16	36
Altona City	15	9	4	2	44	21	31
Plenty Valley Lions	15	7	2	6	44	34	23
Kyneton District	15	5	2	8	36	28	17
Watsonia Heights	15	4	1	10	25	48	13
Darebin Falcons	15	4	3	8	23	51	12
Gisborne	15	3	2	10	23	48	11
Fawkner	15	1	3	11	8	63	6

Womens Metropolitan League South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Casey Comets	17	17	0	0	145	6	51
Sandringham SC	17	10	1	6	41	39	31
Berwick City	17	10	0	7	46	46	30
Mornington	17	9	1	7	39	44	28
Beaumaris	17	8	2	7	49	60	26
Bayside Argonauts	17	5	2	10	41	66	17
Skye Utd	17	3	1	13	30	73	10
Keysborough	17	2	1	14	14	71	7

Womens Metropolitan League Central

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Fitzroy City	18	15	1	2	66	11	46
Port Melbourne	17	14	2	1	54	16	44
South Melbourne	17	9	2	6	53	35	29
Brunswick Zebras	18	7	4	7	57	38	25
Elwood City	17	7	1	9	32	34	22
Maribyrnong Swifts FC	18	5	2	11	26	45	17
Keilor Park	18	6	1	11	33	37	16
Yarra Jets	17	0	1	16	4	109	1

Womens Metropolitan League East - North East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
FC Bulleen Lions	18	17	0	1	76	10	51
Boroondara Eagles	17	16	0	1	54	13	48
Monbulk Rangers SC	17	9	3	5	22	21	30
Eltham Redback FC	18	8	2	8	23	30	26
Deakin Lions FC	17	8	0	9	28	35	24
Monash University	18	7	2	9	21	25	23
La Trobe University	17	7	1	9	40	28	22
Swinburne University	17	3	4	10	21	34	10
Mooroolbark	17	2	4	11	16	59	10
Croydon City Arrows	18	0	4	14	13	59	4

Mens Thirds League Div 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Altona Lions	17	13	1	3	65	24	40
Dandenong Thunder	17	12	3	2	60	23	39
South Yarra	18	12	1	5	61	22	37
Old Xaverians	17	10	4	3	62	23	34
Bayside Argonauts	17	9	2	6	63	45	29
La Trobe University	18	6	2	10	46	46	20
Marcellin Old Collegians	17	6	2	9	21	38	20
Cleeland Utd	17	5	1	11	40	70	16
Doveton	17	5	0	12	29	66	15
DOC Utd	17	0	0	17	17	107	0

Mens Thirds League Div 2 North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Melbourne University	17	11	2	4	51	29	35
Gisborne	16	10	4	2	46	20	34
Northcote City	16	10	0	6	49	41	30
Keilor Park	17	7	2	8	47	37	23
La Trobe University	16	6	5	5	39	41	23
Moreland City	16	5	3	8	24	41	18
FC Strathmore	16	3	3	10	28	44	12
Plenty Valley Lions	16	2	6	8	26	54	12
Sporting Whittlesea FC	8	2	1	5	16	19	4

Mens Thirds League Div 2 South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Old Melburnians	17	11	3	3	61	26	36
Brandon Park	17	10	6	1	46	18	36
Scotch Old Boys	17	10	6	1	55	28	36
South Yarra	17	10	5	2	46	17	35
RMIT Redbacks	17	9	3	5	54	34	27
Monash University	17	4	6	7	35	38	18
Riversdale	18	5	2	11	24	60	17
Melbourne University	18	4	3	11	29	50	15
Boroondara Eagles	17	2	2	13	23	62	8
Whitehorse Utd	17	2	2	13	21	61	8

Mens Thirds League Div 3 North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Altona City	17	16	0	1	92	17	48
Fawkner	17	12	4	1	52	19	40
Kyneton District	17	8	5	4	41	31	29
Upfield	17	8	4	5	39	44	28
Brimbank Stallions	17	8	3	6	53	37	27
Hoppers Crossing	18	8	2	8	44	44	26
Eltham Redback FC	18	4	5	9	34	45	17
Uni. of Melbourne	17	4	2	11	36	57	14
La Trobe University	18	4	2	12	32	63	14
Melton	18	1	1	16	18	84	4

Mens Thirds League Div 3 South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Dandenong Thunder	17	12	3	2	75	27	39
South Yarra	18	12	3	3	60	20	39
Old Xaverians	17	12	3	2	43	15	39
Bayside Argonauts	17	9	3	5	39	28	30
Monash University	17	7	2	8	30	38	23
Central Park Rangers 2	18	7	2	9	30	38	23
Beaumaris	17	6	4	7	29	27	22
Old Melburnians	17	5	2	10	25	51	17
Old Camberwell Grammar	17	2	2	13	20	54	8
Central Park Rangers 1	17	1	2	14	10	63	5

Mens Thirds League Div 4 North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Altona City	17	15	1	1	82	21	46
Melbourne Bears	17	13	1	3	65	22	40
North Sunshine Eagles	18	12	1	5	52	22	37
Diamond Valley Utd	17	9	1	7	34	36	28
Gisborne	17	8	0	9	31	36	24
Watsonia Heights	16	7	1	8	36	35	22
Uni. of Melbourne 1	16	5	3	8	34	39	18
Uni. of Melbourne 2	17	5	0	12	32	51	15
Melbourne University	18	3	2	13	22	76	11
Moreland Wolves	17	2	2	13	26	76	8

Mens Thirds League Div 4 South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Elwood City	17	14	1	2	76	26	43
Middle Park FC	17	12	1	4	68	28	37
Old Melburnians	17	10	3	4	56	39	33
Caulfield Cobras	17	10	3	4	48	37	33
Scotch Old Boys	17	9	2	6	35	33	29
Marcellin Old Collegians	17	7	4	6	36	32	25
Monash University	17	5	1	11	40	56	16
Old Camberwell Grammar	17	3	4	10	24	55	13
Old Trinity Grammarians	17	4	0	13	30	59	12
Ashburton	17	0	3	14	19	67	3

Mens Thirds League Div 5 North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sydenham Park	15	11	3	1	93	16	36
Essendon Utd	16	8	6	2	53	22	30
Cairnlea	15	9	2	4	51	38	29
Epping City	15	8	1	6	39	31	25
Western Eagles	15	6	6	3	51	35	24
Altona Magic	15	6	4	5	26	23	22
Tullamarine Jets	15	3	3	9	33	61	12
West Preston	15	3	1	11	29	63	10
Uni. of Melbourne	15	1	0	14	22	108	3

Mens Thirds League Div 5 South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Frankston Pines	17	13	2	2	93	32	41
Sandringham SC	17	12	3	2	75	31	39
Warragul Utd	17	11	4	2	62	34	37
Bunyip & District Soccer Club	17	9	4	4	59	37	31
Keysborough	17	7	3	7	60	60	24
RMIT Redbacks	17	7	3	7	65	54	21
Old Brighton Grammarians	17	4	6	7	48	58	18
Old Carey	17	3	1	13	29	67	10
East Bentleigh	17	3	1	13	33	95	10
Eltham Redback FC	17	2	1	14	17	73	7

Mens Thirds League Div 6 North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Heidelberg Eagles SC	17	13	3	1	53	18	42
Old Melburnians	17	12	1	4	59	29	37
Kyneton District	17	12	0	5	42	19	36
Old Xaverians	17	9	4	4	43	26	31
Bayside Argonauts	18	9	1	8	40	40	28
Moreland Utd	17	7	3	7	39	33	24
Heidelberg Stars	17	6	3	8	49	56	21
Sunbury Utd	17	6	2	9	38	41	20
Brimbank Stallions	17	6	2	9	32	39	20
Hoppers Crossing	18	6	1	11	47	56	19
Scotch Old Boys	17	3	4	10	21	47	13
Melbourne University	17	2	0	15	18	77	6

Mens Thirds League Div 6 South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Box Hill United Pythagoras SC	17	13	3	1	55	18	42
Endeavour Utd	17	11	3	3	60	22	36
Doveton	17	11	4	2	50	21	34
Skye Utd	17	8	6	3	63	39	30
Seaford Utd	17	8	4	5	49	39	28
Old Mentonians	17	8	2	7	47	49	26
Sandringham SC 1	17	8	1	8	44	35	22
Brighton	17	5	3	9	37	45	18
Sandringham SC 2	17	7	0	10	32	42	18
Beaumaris	17	5	0	12	31	57	15
Old Scotch SC	17	2	1	14	21	56	7
Ringwood City	17	2	1	14	25	91	7

Mens Masters North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sporting Whittlesea FC	17	12	3	2	55	22	39
North Sunshine Eagles	18	10	3	5	50	26	33
Whittlesea Utd	18	10	3	5	52	33	33
Keilor Wolves	17	8	3	6	47	39	27
Moreland City	18	7	1	10	41	38	22
Brimbank Stallions	18	6	4	8	25	31	22
Oak Park SC	17	3	4	10	29	74	13
Whittlesea Zebras	17	3	1	13	18	54	10

Mens Masters North-North-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Monash City	18	15	1	2	62	23	43
DOC Utd	17	9	1	7	42	31	28
Box Hill United Pythagoras SC	17	8	2	7	28	24	26
Ashburton	17	7	2	8	33	38	23
Eltham Redback FC	17	6	0	11	30	45	18
Glen Waverley	18	3	2	13	23	57	11

Mens Masters South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Doveton	16	12	2	2	58	19	38
Caulfield Cobras	15	9	4	2	59	25	31
Bentleigh Greens	15	9	4	2	48	17	31
North Caulfield	15	9	2	4	57	29	29
Beaumaris	15	7	2	6	40	27	23
Bayside Argonauts	15	6	1	8	40	44	19
Kingston City	16	4	2	10	44	55	14
White Star Dandenong	15	2	3	10	26	75	9
Brighton	16	1	0	15	13	94	3

Mens Masters Central

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Yarra	16	14	0	2	86	22	42
Fitzroy City	15	14	0	1	80	26	42
Northcote City	16	7	4	5	50	48	25
Malvern City	15	8	0	7	55	46	24
Collingwood City	16	7	2	7	44	41	23
Juventus Old Boys	15	6	2	7	47	46	20
Middle Park FC	16	5	3	8	45	48	18
FC Clifton Hill	15	3	0	12	36	92	6
Banyule City	16	0	1	15	34	108	1

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